McALPINE MEMOIRS

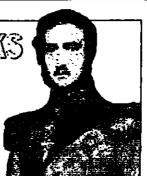
Christmas rituals at Chequers PAGE 17



BEST FOR BOOKS

Sir Roy Strong on Albert, architect of the modern monarchy

PLUS: Peter Riddell on the life and times of Tim Bell PAGES 38.39



WHY MARRIAGE STILL MATTERS

مكذا من الإعلى

William Rees-Mogg on the instability of living together PAGE 18



BEST FOR THE WANTED

☐ Director___ Secretary_ Consultant 🗌 Graduate...

> **APPOINTMENTS 26-PAGE SECTION**

Meat industry hygiene report was suppressed

POLITICAL REPORTER

AN unpublished report on the meat industry raised fears more than a year ago that poor hygiene was putting the public at increasing risk of infection from E. coli, the bacterium which recently claimed 20 lives in Scotland.

The report was commissioned by the Meat Hygiene Service, an agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and was intended for publication last March. But it was suppressed after the authors refused to tone down criticisms in the draft version.

The BSE crisis broke that month and yesterday the report's editor Bill Swann said: "The reasons given were that it was perhaps not good timing, given that the indus-try had received such a battering with criticism about BSE." Mr Swann, a former Official Veterinary Surgeon, added that had the report's recommendations been implemented, the risk from E. coli would have been much reduced.

Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, of being behind the decision to shelve the report, although officials said that it had not

been presented to ministers. The El million report was compiled by the Hygiene Advice Team, whose six members were contracted to the Meat Hygiene Service for 12 months from March 1995 to

audit Britain's meat industry. The team visited every one of the 450 abattoirs in England, Scotland and Wales, before compiling a 54-

page report — a copy of which has been obtained by The Times. They found that abattoirs were accepting for slaughter animals whose hides or fleeces were contaminated with faeces and said: "Organisms, such as Escherichia coli 157 and Salmonella, can be introduced into the plant on the skins of dirty livestock." It recommended a national policy to define "unacceptable

contamination" of animals destined for slaughter. And it said that, instead of trying to wash away traces of contamination on carcases — which simply spreads bacteria - abattoir workers should trim off those parts of the animal that were obviously dirty. However, the process is labour-intensive, and would not be popular in an industry with tiny

profit margins. Mr Swann said yesterday: "If the recommendations in the report were being implemented uniformly and fully across the country, the risk from E coli 157 would be

considerably diminished." There was considerable anger among the Hygiene Advice Team when the Meat Hygiene Service refused to publish the report. They claimed that service had wanted to do so, but had been overruled by the Chief Veterinary Officer.

Mr Swann, who is now an assistant chief veterinary officer for the RSPCA, said: "I felt the report would have been of enormous benefit to veterinary surgeons involved in meat work and to people involved in food hygiene. The recommendations were obviously very important." A ministry

been circulated within the industry.

but no minister had seen it. Although the report's authors accept that their findings were sent to individual abattoirs, they argued that only a national code of practice would stop abattoirs from taking in dirty stock. They said that intense competition meant that few abattoirs would turn away animals if they believed another would accept

Report, page 4

£175 tax free pension is Tory target

JOHN MAJOR held out the prospect of a tax-free pension of £175 a week for the next generation yesterday when he unveiled plans for the biggest overhaul in state pensions for

50 years. Producing a centrepiece proposal for the Tory election manifesto, the Prime Minister said that everyone would have scheme to be built up over their working lifetime. The scheme — called Basic Pensions Plus - was, however. attacked by Labour, creating a

rare division between the two parties on policy. Under the plan, which could not come into effect before the end of the next Parliament. people starting work would pay £9 a week of their national insurance contributions into a fund for their old age. But today's pensioners and work-

ers would not be affected. Under projections outlined by Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, people on average earnings of about £350 a week would build up a fund worth £130,000 during their working life. That would be enough to give them £175 per week in today's money -or more if their funds performed better than govern-

MOHE.

replaces?

way i last

WZA

☐ New Basic Pension Plus to replace basic state pension and Serps

☐ Individuals to get £9-a-week rebate to invest in personalised pension when they start work.

☐ Government to transfer the 5 per cent of earnings from Serps into new pension funds. ☐ Today's workers and pensioners unaffected by scheme, to be phased in after 2001.

☐ Government to guarantee basic state pension, but average earner expected to build up pension worth £175 a week. ☐ Scheme will cost taxpayer up to £7billion a year medium term, but save £40 billion a

☐ Tax relief on pension contributions to go, but pension income tax free.

year from 2040

ment assumptions. Pension contributions would no longer be tax-free, but the income they produced would be - and any money left in the fund at death could be passed to heirs. If the fund did not perform as well as it should, an

inflation-linked basic pension level would continue to be guaranteed by the state. But once the scheme was fully operational in 40 years' time, all the cash to fund pensions would come from investments by big pension funds.

Carers, the unemployed, sick, disabled and some others would get credits towards and benefits would continue to he available for those unable to save enough.

Mr Lilley and Mr Major claimed that, in time, the switch could release as much as £40 billion in state spending. At first, however, the scheme would cost £160 million a year, rising to £7 billion annually by the end of the changeover period.

Conservative policy chiefs were delighted that the "big idea" for their next term of office had arrived. They saw it as a boost for personal capital ownership on a par with the sale of council houses and privatisation in the 1980s. Although some Conservative MPs voiced doubts about the electoral impact if Labour raised fears that the state pension was under threat, Mr Major's close circle was delighted that he would be



able to portray his party as capable of radical thought.

Labour strongly criticised the plans, even though it is working on substantial reforms of its own which will involve a big extension of personal pensions. Harriet Harman, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, described them as "a really chilling prospect for hard-working families. They certainly spell the end of the basic state

pension." Gordon Brown said that the £7 billion a year ultimate cost was the equivalent of 4p on income tax. And the cumulative cost to the taxpayer would be £151 billion or more if the Government had to make up any shortfall

in personal funds. But Mr Major said it was "a revolution for the new generation and probably one of the furthest-sighted reforms produced by any government".

print books and she looked

through and made her choice.

Staff say that no snub is

intended with the doodled

design, adding that it was

necessary given that the terms

of the divorce settlement in-

cluded her moving her staff to

to prevent embarrassing con-

tact between the Princess and

her former husband, whose

offices were almost next door

to hers at St James's. The

move was delayed while an

apartment in Kensington Pal-

Although she retains "Prin-

cess of Wales" in her title, she

felt there was no obligation to

use the feathers in her new

ace, where the Princess lives

was refurbished.

The office move was agreed

Simple, no fuss."

Kensington Palace.

He did not expect legislation to be produced until "the back" end of the next Parliament. This is not a vote-winner in the sense that we are saying to people in this election This is a new goody. The people who will benefit will be only just of voting age or below. It is not a short-term vote winner. It is the right thing to do for the

economy, for pensions, for government." Shares in life insurance

companies barely moved yesterday, largely because the City believes that there is little chance of the Conservatives returning to power to implement the proposals.

Details, pages 8, 9 David Willetts, page 18 Leading article, page 19 Industry welcome, page 25 Pennington, page 27 Graham Searjeant, page 29

Respect law, Berisha told

BRITAIN yesterday told President Berisha that he must respect the rule of law if Albania was to receive aid from other European nations. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said in a BBC interview: "We are not prepared to give support when he acts in an authoritiarian and dictatorial way." His warn-

ing came as diplomatic efforts intensified to end the crisis and the Albanian opposition appealed to the West to put pressure on President Berisha to end the state of emergency. Britain accused, page 12 Rebels dig in, page 13

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Attlee is to join the Tories

By James Landale POLITICAL REPORTER

THE grandson of Clement Attlee, the post-war Labour Prime Minister, is to join the Conservative Party in the House of Lords.

In a rare coup for the Tories, Earl Attlee, 40, crossbencher since he inherited the title in 1991 - said he was entering the Tory fold because he supported the par-

ty's policies. His announcement boosted ministers in the wake of the Wirral South by-election defeat and the failure of the Tories to make any ground in the polls less than eight weeks before the election. He told The Times: "I am

joining the Conservative Party at this time because I believe that the Conservative Government is right on the economy, right on Europe, and that John Major is the only man who will defend the constitution and avoid the break-up of the United Kingdom. John Major is an excellent Prime Minister and I will do all I can to convince people to vote for the Conservatives."

ernment's ban on handguns.

KENSINGTON PALACE LONDON W8 4PU His conversion comes despite his criticism of the Gov-

LETTERS19

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WILLIAM REES-MOGG. 18

New logo asserts Princess's distance from Royal Family

BY DANIEL MCGRORY asked for "something simple,

something dignified and

What she was given is the

Spencer coronet set above a

swirling capital D. all in dark

blue rather than royal blue.

Kensington Palace refused to

say how much the new logo

cost. "We designed it in-

house," a spokesman said.

and then she looked at the

various proposals the staff

suggested and picked this. She

is very happy with it and

The Princess doodled a bit

something appropriate".

DIANA, Princess of Wales. has designed her own logo, which distances her still further from her former husband and the Royal Family.

Her staff said last night that

the new logo was chosen and partly designed by the Princess, who doodled on a sketch pad what she was looking for. The official reason for the new look is that she moved her

offices to Kensington Palace this week and her correspondence has to reflect the new address. However, royal sources say the removal of the Prince of Wales feathers from her logo is yet another sign that she has severed her links with her former husband. Instead, her staff say, she

thinks it very smart. "I am not sure what the print is called that we have used and I do not think she knows, but it is the style she liked. We just got out some

The new logo, left, lacks the Prince of Wales feathers

ST. JAMES'S PALACE LONDON SWIA 185



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It is intended that the logo will be used only for letterheads and envelopes and will be embossed on the "with compliments" slips that her office sends out in replies to correspondence. The Princess

Secret cash deal, page 7

of the Royal Family.



It seemed sensible with retirement looming in May"

Boat comes in for civil servants

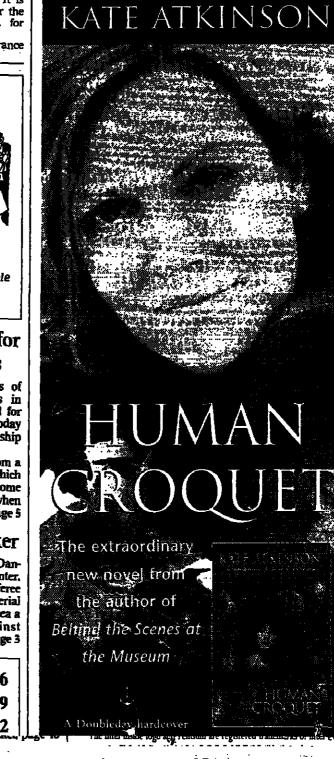
One of the last groups of expatriate civil servants in Hong Kong will set sail for home from the colony today aboard the luxury cruise ship

They are benefiting from a perk of the colonial era, which entitles them to travel home by sea rather than air when their assignment ends. Page 5

BBC sacks Baker

The BBC has dismissed Danny Baker, the radio presenter, after he lambasted the referee is believed to receive more who awarded the controverial mail than any other member penalty which gave Chelsea a cup-tie victory against Leicester City.....

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Nation misses out as MP's words of warning fall on deaf ears

ust as a rambler may stumble upon a clearing in the wood where, unheard by any other living creature, a small songbird is wasting his melody on the uncomprehending trees, so a sketchwriter may amble into the Commons Press Gallery on an uneventful afternoon and see a little-known backbencher in full voice, with a powerful argument, a wellcrafted text and almost nobody

His song is witnessed by few beyond a weary Madam Speaker, two gossiping ministers, the Press Association note-taker, the Hansard stenographer, and five baffled Strangers' Gallery.

Yesterday was such an after-noon. Andrew Robathan (C, Blaby) was moving his Civil Actions (Limitation of Proceedings) Bill. The young former soldier had a good case, a happy turn of phrase and confident delivery. In a fair-minded way he was expressing the other burnels. ing thoughts which would raise a cheer from millions outside the Palace of Westminster. His proposals — if contained in a Government Paper or Party manifesto — would be earnestly discussed across the But because it was only Mr

Robathan, only a Ten-Minute Rule Bill and only a Wednesday afternoon, there may be a grunt from a whip in the Smoking Room ("clever speech by that Robathan fel-low") but nothing more. He might as well have been talking to the trees.

For lack of parliamentary time, his Bill will die within weeks, and he knew it. It will scarcely be reported in the



newspapers and he knew it. Ignored by television, it might just merit a few seconds' coverage on Radio 4's Yester-day in Parliament. And that will be the end of it. All this Mr Robathan knew. But, compelled by reason and indignation, he would propose his Bill

regardless. His case was simple. Britain was catching the American damages are being brought, and succeeding, where in the past the aggrieved person would have out the loss down to his own faulty judgment. "just one of those things" or bad luck.

In Lyme Regis someone had slipped on wet cobbles and sued the council for £95,000 because there had been no

are slippery. An accountant had contracted dysentery in Africa and sued. An unmarried teacher at a Roman Catholic school who had babies by different men, including a former pupil, was suing for "constructive dismissal". A prisoner was awarded damages because his haircut was

The Law Society, said Robathan, had now set up an accident line for injured citizens, to drum up trade for lawyers. For them this work was a goldmine. Often the

through legal aid. Damages (where paid by insurers) worked their way through into higher premiums for all.

Mr Robathan's proposed

reform sounded, at first glance, feasible and fair. An ombudsman should hear claims and recommend an out-of-court settlement. If litigants were not prepared to accept it they would be free to go to court, but at their own

cost, without legal aid.

The MP had a pleasant lightness of touch. Instructed by the Chair to name the day

for his Bill's debate, he replied, after the slightest of pauses-May I, Madam Speaker, It

may be that this Bill does not become law." And who asked Miss Boothroyd, would prepare and bring in the Bill? Here it is

customary for an MP to red off a list of sympathisers. 'Myself." said Mr Robathan. In honour of the Marie

Curie Campaign, he was wearing a daffedil, ... born to blush unseen. And waste its sweetness on the

Blair backs

off polling

referendum

Tony Blair yesterday backed away from committing a Lab-our government to a timetable for staging a referendum on changing the electoral system. The Labour leader also issued

a warning that, even if the

public voted in favour of

change in a referendum, re-

forms might not be introduced

in time for the general election

Labour unveiled a package

of planned constitutional

reforms agreed jointly with senior Liberal Demo-

It omitted any commitment

to electoral reform but pledged

both parties to the abolition of

after next.

Libel litigant takes MacKay to court over entrance fees

By Frances GIBB. LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chancellor was accused yesterday of acting outside his powers in a test challenge over the hefty increases in court "entrance" fees he has introduced in the

John Witham, a 50-year-old from Essex who is on income support, is challenging the rises because he cannot pay the £500 fee to issue a libel writ and bring an action as a litigant in person. If Mr Witham is successful, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, could face re-paying all court fees collected since the increases came into

force in the middle of January. The High Court writ fee went up from £120 to £500, All other fees for civil proceedings also rose by anything from 50 per cent to 150 per cent in line with Government policy to make the courts self-

financing.
Mr Witham's counsel, Peter Duffy, told Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Mr Justice Laws, that when the Lord Chancellor increased fees by amending the Supreme Court Act 1981, he also removed the exemption from fees for those on income support. As a result, Mr Duffy said, Mr Witham was barred from issuing a libel writ and was denied access to the courts. Legal aid is not available for libel because there was no power to waive or remit fees. Before the amendment, court fees could he remitted or reduced where to pay them would involve undue hardship because of the exceptional circumstances of

the case.

Mr Witham was unemployed, had no savings and received income support of £57.90 a week, he told the judges. Even if he were able to put aside £20 a week, which was "unimaginable", it would take him six months to save the court fee of £500, he said. Without that, he could not start the action and was, in effect, denied a "right of access

Mr Duffy said that the Lord Chancellor had no power under Section 130 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 to repeal the provisions which allowed fees to be remitted when increasing court fees. The fundamental principle of access to the courts should not be altered unless there were "clear words in statute", he said. It was not "susceptible to being altered in delegated legislation", particularly where no debate, or vote, had

been required by Parliament. He added that even if the amendment order was valid, it would infinge the European Convention on Human Rights, which guaranteed a right to privacy and to a family life, which the law of

defamation was designed to protect "without discrimination on any grounds".

Stephen Richards, counsel for Lord Mackay, said that Parliament had conferred on the Lord Chancellor a "wide discretion to prescribe fees for the Supreme Court", subject to the agreement of the senior. judges who are High Court heads of division and the

Treasury.

The setting of the fees did not amount to interference with an individual's right of access to the courts, he added. Whether court fees where set at a reasonable level was a separate issue from whether someone should be given any financial help with his fees.

Furthermore, court fees are but one element in the total costs of litigation, which will depend upon a host of factors such as procedural complexity, need for and costs legal representation, evidential requirements, cost of transcripts, ability to pay other party's costs if unsuccessful and costs of any appeal."

The latest rises will reap an extra £50 million in court fees and are the last stage in a fouryear policy to cover almost the entire £310 million cost of running the civil courts." Sature The judges' ruling which

will be given on Friday.



Labour women MPs petitioning Downing Street yesterday for Mr Evans' de-selection

Major attacks half-apologetic Evans

By Philip Webster and Joanna Bale

JOHN MAJOR yesterday condemned the attack on women politicians by Tory MP David Evans as the maverick rightwinger was forced to apologise after a dressing down from his chief

Mr Evans said sorry to
-Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary,
whom he had descibed as dead from the neck upwards" and to the Prime Minister, whom he said was vindictive and not forgiving"; but not to his Labour opponent at the general election Melanie Johnson, whose children he branded as "bastards." The MP's selective contrition came after an early morning telephone call from Alastair Goodlad, the Chief Whip. Then the Prime Minister, asked at a Downing Street news conference whether he condemned Mr Evans' re-

marks unreservedly and in their totality, replied: "Yes." Meanwhile, Ms Johnson, admitted that her feelings of indignation were mixed with a certain amount of glee that they could only help her to win his Welwyn Hatfield seat. At her home in Cambridge yesterday, she said: "It's an extra morale boost to our

campaign. He has shot himell in the toot yet again. Although Mr Evans called her three young children "bastards" because she is not married, Ms Johnson appeared yesterday to be more enraged by his remarks that she had "never done a proper job". She said: "He is a man well known for his very strong

political views, but he has

never attacked me personally

A SECOND defence minister

was forced yesterday to admit

he had misled Parliament

after giving a false answer to

the House of Lords about Gulf

War syndrome investigations.

fence Minister, said answers

he had given to parliamentary

questions in June and July last

year about the cause of death

of a number of animals found

in the Saudi and Kuwaiti

deserts at the end of the Gulf

Last summer Lord Howe

said samples from the animal

carcasses had been sent for

War had been inaccurate.

Earl Howe, a Junior De-



Melanie Johnson: abuse gave her'a boost

in that way and I am pretty

sbocked. "I was particularly amazed at the inaccuracies about my work. The children understand the words Mr Evans

used, but they are rather bemused by it all." John Horrell, the leader of Cambridgeshire Conservative councillors, said last night "Ms Johnson's children are very well brought up and her family circumstances are held in high esteem. Mr Evans'

Second minister admits

misleading Parliament

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

examination to the Centre for

Tropical Veterinary Medicine

at Edinburgh University, which concluded they had

Inquiries at the Ministry of

Defence, however, revealed

that the samples were never

sent to Edinburgh and it is

now believed that no tests

were carried out at any re-

search centre. MoD officials are now searching through

documents and records to see

what happened to the sam-

ples, which were taken from a

number of camels, goats and

sheep. In a report last month

died of natural causes.

comments were totally inappropriate and I am at a loss to explain why he made them."

Mr Major's condemnation was not enough for Janet Anderson, Labour's women's spokesman. "If he is so comuletely at odds with Mr Evans then he surely must agree that Mr Evans is not fit to be a Tory MP and should go," she

She later led a group of women Labour MPs to Downing Street today to hand in a letter calling on Mr Major to de-select Mr Evans.

She said in her letter: "Mr Evans's disgraceful comments clearly made him unsuitable to be a Parliamentary candidate in the forthcoming election.

But Mrs Bottomley was satisfied, saying that she had a "very gallant" apology from Mr Evans.She said:"I can only say when he came to speak in my constituency the other day, they had a tremendously good evening. I have had a very gallant and elegant apology from him, which is much appreciated."

Richard Mottram, the MoD's

Permanent Under Secretary,

confirmed there had been

serious failings by a number

of military officers and civil

servants who had advised

Nicholas Soames, the Armed

Forces Minister, that organo-

phosphate pesticides were not

used by British troops in the

Gulf. Veterans suffering from

a range of illnesses which they

have called Gulf War syn-

drome have claimed that the

toxic pesticides could have

caused the deterioration in

their health since returning

from the Gulf.

voting rights for hereditary peers, Scottish and Welsh devolution and a Freedom of Information Act. Woman's body

found buried Police have found the body of Diana Goldsmith, the former common law wife of Derek Goldsmith, a millionaire, buried in the garden of a house in Bromley, southeast London. The mother of three children, Miss Goldsmith, 45, was last seen in Sevenoaks in January 1995. Two men have been

New ferry safety

rules condemned New ferry safety rules being announced by the Government today on the tenth anniversary of the Herald of Free Enterprise disaster, are "too little, too late", families of the 194 victims said. To meet international standards III British ferries must be adapted. But campaigners claim basic problems with roll-on roll-off ferries will remain.

Paedophiles 'exceed million'

A police officer who has spent 32 years tracking child abusers claimed there were at least a million activé paedophiles in Britain. Detective Superintendent Michael Hames, former head of the Obscene Publications Branch at New Scotland Yard, told a Perth conference that for every convicted paedophile another 20 went free.

Failing schools have more boys

Schools found to be failing their pupils often have many more boys than girls, an analysis by school inspectors disclosed vesterday. A study by Ofsted, the schools inspec torate, of the 260 schools it has judged to be failing out of more than 14,000 assessed, found that weak leadership and poor teaching were the main characteristics of failure.

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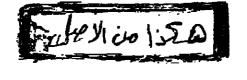
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Mackay chides judges

THE Lord Chancellor last night cautioned judges against taking it on themselves to overcome defects in the law. Lord Mackay of Clashfern said it was his "firm view" that a judge's duty was "to apply the law as he finds it, not to seek to rectify perceived inadequacies by the use of creative

interpretation". When deficiences were revealed "it is for Parliament to respond", he said. Lord Mackay was speaking in London at the prizegiving for the Times Law Awards competition, sponsored by the cham-bers of Anthony Grabiner, QC. at Essex Court, Temple, in the City of London.

The winner of the £3,000 first prize on the title "The Law Lords - A Supreme Court?" was Elizabeth Errington, 23, a graduate in psychology and physiology from Oxford. The 2.000 second prize went to John McKeever and £1,000

third prize to Kenneth Yap. The winning essay and full list of winners will be carried on the Law page in The Times next Tuesday.

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Police reveal chilling details of how Lin Russell met her death



deaf ears

Blair bad

off polling

referenda

r Daddy Phone

Mrs Russell: gagged with strips of towel

By Stephen Farrell

THE killer of Lin Russell, the mother anacked with a hammer as she walked home across a Kent field with her two daughters, bound her wrists with shoe lace and gagged or blindfolded her with strips of towel. detectives said yesterday. Her sixyear-old daughter Megan, who was also battered to death, had a bootlace wrapped twice around her neck, possibly to force her mother's comp-

Detective Chief Inspector David Stevens said Megan's sister Josie, aged nine, who suffered 16 head injuries but survived, did not remember her mother and sister being tied up. Josie is now recovering in Wales with her father, Dr Shaun Russell.

Kent police revealed for the first time that the attack had lasted between 10 and 15 minutes, as officers renewed a public appeal for information vesterday. In the nine months since the attack, no one has been arrested, but police have released a photofit of the

Mr Stevens said the victims were found fully-clothed and there was no evidence of sexual motive for the attack, but he said the reason for the assault might never be known, even if the killer was caught. "Anybody with a propensity to do this is suffering from some sort of psychological disorder, probably being a psychopath," he said.

He said the killer could have been disturbed at any time, and that the evidence showed the attack took place within a space of three or four square metres. "You can't tie people up and do all these activities within the space of a few seconds. You are talking about 10 to 15 minutes. If you work the time out, there is exactly enough time for that to have hap-pened," Mr Stevens added,

Mrs Russell, 45, had her wrists bound with a lace from her own tennis shoe. The lace was still around her right wrist when she was found. The bloody towel strips, torn from the family towel, were removed and were later found in the children's string bag, which had been thrown over a hedge a mile away. The boot lace around Megan's neck has not been found and probably belonged to the killer. Police say it is vital that the lace is found. "We know that was put

around her neck before the fatal hammer blow," Mr Stevens said. You can speculate but clearly it could have been used to force mum to do certain things. Can you imagine a mother being confronted with a ligature around her child's throat?

She would comply, wouldn't she?"

Mrs Russell and Megan were killed sometime between 4.20pm and 5pm on July 9 last year in Cherrygarden Lane, in woods near Chillenden, Kent. They were returning from a swimming gala at the girls school to their home in Nonington, near Canterbury. They left the school at 4pm and were seen walking through a field into the woods. The last sighting was at 4.20pm. Josie later told police that she saw a car drive past them, then

the driver climbed out, reached into the back of the car, brought out a hammer and attacked Megan and her mother before chasing her. Mr Stevens said the team of 15 detectives were taking calls from the public almost every day, and was using forensic technology to recreate the scene. Although officers had liaised with detectives on the Billie Jo Jenkins murder in Hastings, there was nothing to suggest links. Extensive inquiries had also failed to discover potential military or occult

Mr Stevens renewed appeals for sightings of a fair-haired man seen driving a light-coloured car with rear mudilaps, anti-static strip and a GB sticker near Cherrygarden Lane



Megan: battered to death with hammer

FA Cup goal comment rebounds on Danny Baker as he is sacked from BBC phone-in

Radio host and referee pay penalty for one kick

By Damian Whitworth and Russell Kempson

HOTLY disputed penalty kick yesterday produced two results beyond the FA Cup tie it decided. Danny Baker, the radio presenter who lambasted the referee who awarded the penalty, was sacked by the BBC, and the referee himself will no longer officiate during a Premiership match between the two sides next month.

The controversial penalty that gave Chelsea victory three minutes from the end of extra time in their FA Cup fifth round replay against Leicester City on February 26 caused uproar among City supporters. Some are suing the Football Association over the

Later that night Baker, who was hosting an irreverent radio phone in show, called on supporters all over the country to barrack Mike Reed, the referee, wherever he went and "make his life hell".

Baker was sacked by the BBC yesterday hours before the FA Premier League took the unprecedented decision, on the advice of police, that Mr. Reed would not officiate at the next match between Chelsea and Leicester.

Baker said he believed that the BBC had been team on by were upset because he provided an outlet for the uncompro-

mising views of fans. BBC bosses said that Baker's ferocious verbal assault on the referee during his Wednesday evening slot on Radio 5 Live was the final straw after a string of incidents.

After saying that Mr Reed was to be the sacrificial lamb in a campaign against refer-ees, Baker cut off callers who disagreed with him and asked "all football supporters to barrack him [Reed], really get on his back. Use words like 'fraud' and 'you are no good. you were wrong, Mr Reed'."
Tony Hall, head of BBC news, said of Baker: "This wasn't the first occasion that he had crossed the line

between being lively, humor-



Reed: planned rematch will not take place

ous and controversial and being insulting to the audience. This is something we cannot tolerate. It was decided that in the light of the programme, when Baker encouraged unacceptable behaviour towards a football referee and was blatantly rude to callers, he should no longer

host the programme." Last November Baker advised Tottenham Hotspur fans angry at their team's performance to throw their programmes on the pitch, which is against the law. Earlier this year while Brighton and Hove Albion were in turmoil. Baker wished terminal illness on the directors.

Baker, a close friend of the equally outrageous Chris Evans who recently parted com-pany with Radio I, was unrepentant. "I'm not that surprised. It's been an uneasy marriage since the beginning," he said. "I don't think you can represent the true feelings of rank-and-file football fans as well as [keeping] your contacts with the hierarchy in the FA. I think they were leant on." Answering accusations that he had not respected listeners' views, he said: "It was never meant to be After being sacked from his

Wednesday show Baker de-

clined to continue in his Saturday slot. He will continue to work for GLR, a BBC station in London.

Referees said that the decision to release Mr Reed, 45, from Birmingham, from a game was an unwelcome precedent. David Elleray, the Premier League referees' spokesman, said: "Many people within the game, not just referees, were disappointed with the comments made and concerned over the actions they might provoke."

Arthur Smith, general secretary of the Referees' Association said: "This [decision] is a bit worrying. It shows the pressures on referees at the highest level and if anything goes wrong it seems that they have to bear the brunt of it. A referee gives an honest decision, as he saw it at the time. and then gets slaughtered." He said it would be worth looking at technological aides, such as action replays on giant screens, to help referees.

Earlier this week Leicester City supporters served a writ on the FA, seeking £140 in damages plus expenses when one of their number claimed he had to miss two days' work because he was so distressed by the penalty decision.



Danny Baker, who called on football fans to make referee Mike Reed's life hell

Detectives investigate child's TV abuse role

By Adrian Lee

THE parents of the young star of a television drama about child sex abuse may be ques-tioned by detectives for allowing their daughter to take the

A viewer complained that by acting in No Child of Mine, Brooke Kinsella, 13, was herself abused.

Hampshire police confirmed yesterday that there would be an investigation and said that officers would speak to social services and the Crown Prosecution Service. The actress and her parents. George and Debbie, of Islington, north London, may also

be interviewed. The programme was made by the Southampton-based Meridian Broadcasting and screened in most ITV regions

A police spokesman said it was too early to say if there would be a prosecution but it was felt that the complaint merited "a closer look".

Miss Kinsella's agent, Yvette Powell of the Anna Scher Theatre, where the teenage actress spends one evening a week, said: "I am sure nothing will come of it. Brooke was definitely not harmed."

Meridian said there had been 135 calls of complaint about the programme and 173 messages of support. A helpline set up following its screening has received more

Someone e se's server from

Now that Compaq have introduced the ProSignia 200 range, what's the point?

elderly gay man

By A STAFF REPORTER

A SOLICITOR'S son and his two friends were jailed for life yesterday for the murder of an elderly homosexual after taking drink and drugs.
One of the trio had told

police he had watched Quen-tin Tarantino's film Pulp Fiction on the night of the attack. Exeter Crown Court was told. Frederick Sweet, 64, and Bernard Hawken, 53, were assaulted in a shelter in Central Park, Plymouth, on Novem-

Both men had their faces crushed as they were held face downwards and repeatedly stamped on and their genitals were stabbed and mutilated. Mr Hawken will be confined to a wheelchair for the rest of

Richard Bownes, 18, Roberto Pace, 18, and Stuart Smith, 19, all of Plymouth, had denied murdering Mr Sweet and attempting to murder Mr Hawken, and causing him grievous bodily harm with intent. The teenagers all claimed they were out of control through drink and drugs and although they were present when the attacks took place, they never intended to

cause serious injuries. They were convicted of murder and causing grievous bodily harm, and will start their sentences in youth

Bownes was persuaded to go to the police by his father Michael, a senior solicitor at

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

ITALY'S less than celebrated cricketers

could be stumped even before they take

the field for World Cup qualification in

Kuala Lumpur next week. Their coach.

Doug Ferguson, does not speak the

language, which does not help when it

comes to explaining the difference be-

Mr Ferguson, 67, from Newbottle, Co

Durham, is hastily taking language lessons to make himself understood

before his team puts willow to leather.

But the best he has been able to manage

so far is "Conduce con la testa e con la

spalla davann' which roughly trans-

lates "lead with your head and front

tween a leg break and a googly.

Plymouth City Council, who questioned his son after becoming suspicious by the amount of washing he was doing and the colour of the

The gang, all of whom came from well-off families and had been to grammar schools in Plymouth, had spent the evening drinking up to two litres of wine apiece, smoking cannabis, taking large amounts of Valium and sniffing butane. They then went to the park, which is a well-known meeting place for homosexuals at

As they left the park a witness heard one say "We done good, we showed them," but the next day their bravado turned to self pity as they told friends what they had done and one said: I have ruined



Bownes: suspected his son of involvement

Life for killers of | Checks urged on drunk doctors

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A SCOTTISH judge yesterday urged the Department of Health to introduce compulsory two-yearly health checks on doctors. His call came after a surgeon was allowed to continue operating for several years after colleagues suspected his serious drink problem.

The British Medical Association said that it would not oppose checks if they became part of doctors' contracts. The recommendation was made by Sheriff Principal Gordon Nicholson, QC, who conduct-ed a fatal accident inquiry into the deaths of two patients operated on by Gerald Davies, a consultant surgeon formerly of St John's Hospital, Living-ston, West Lothian.

Dr Davies, 49, carried out emergency operations despite having an alcohol level twice the maximum permitted for driving. He told the inquiry that he drank half a bottle of whisky and a lager chaser every night. Doctors specialising in alcoholism told the inquiry that Dr Davies's brain and liver damage suggested that he drank much more.

Formal complaints were made to the managers of the NHS Trust where he worked by staff and GPs but were not acted on. Patients complained that Dr Davies attended clinics smelling of drink. In a report published yester-

day, Sheriff Nicholson criticised the hospital procedures that allowed Dr Davies to

Italian cricketers stumped by language

shoulder when you are playing forward."

Mr Ferguson said: "I've been going over to Italy for about 10 years to coach

various sides so they asked me to take

He says his side will do well even

though he has seen them for only four

weeks since the summer. "The language

is a bit of a problem. But I will get the

message across somewhow - maybe

with sign language. It's a very expensive

business getting everyone together. Luck-

Italy are in the same group as

Scotland, Hong Kong, Bermuda and

Papua New Guinea in the 22-nation

qualifying tournament. The Scots have

been training in a heat chamber at

ily we have a rich president."

over the national team."

keep practising. He said managers who received numerous complaints about Dr Davies's drinking failed to act swiftly enough and junior doctors feared that their careers would

be damaged if they spoke out. Sheriff Nicholson recommended that NHS trusts should require staff suspected of an alcohol problem to undergo a medical examination. Health authorities should consider "compulsory two-yearly medical examinations which would include, among other things, liver function tests."

Yesterday Arthur Morris, chairman of the BMA's Scottish Council, said: "I fully support Sheriff Nicholson's recommendations for improving the monitoring of alcohol problems among health professionals."

Sheriff Nicholson said that he found it "quite astonishing" that serious concerns expressed in 1994 by John Rainey, a consultant surgeon who had to correct an operation performed by Dr Davies, did not provoke an urgent and immediate inquiry. I take a very serious view of this

matter." his report says. The fatal accident inquiry was into the deaths of two of Dr Davies's patients. Sheriff Nicholson concluded that they were seriously ill by the time Dr Davies operated on them and he could not be held responsible for their deaths.

Strathclyde University to prepare for the temperatures in Kuala Lumpur.

But Mr Ferguson, who is a scout for

Northamptonshire, warns: "Italy are

improving all the time. Three of the

tournament teams will go through to the

1999 World Cup proper in England. But

Scotland are among the favourites. If we

bat 50 overs against them we'll have done

Meanwhile Scotland's coach, Jim

Love, fancies his chances: "You have to remember how far down the pecking

order Zimbabwe were 10 years ago, or the

remoteness of the possibility that Sri

Cricket, page 46

Lanka would win the 1996 World Cup."





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Meat industry report: damning story of abattoirs' failings

Poor hygiene led to contamination of animal carcasses

By POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE unpublished report into Britain's meat industry, commissioned by an agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and then suppressed, paints a damning

At almost every stage, from before slaughter to the dispatch of meat and carcasses from processing plants, the inspectors appointed by the Meat Hygiene Service found evidence of routine unhygienic

Dirty knives were put into holders that were supposed to be sterile and clean knives into dirty holders. Workers failed to wash their hands frequently enough and often did not change their overalls during the day "despite gross contamination".

In a number of plants, some of the carcasses awaiting dispatch were contaminated with specified bovine offal, the parts that potentially harbour the BSE agent and are supposed to be removed before the carcass is sent out.

One common problem was the stringing up of carcasses on rails which moved along more quickly than workers could deal with them, leading

Swann of the Hygiene Advisory Team says: "Blood, faeces and urine contaminate the fleece or hides of adjacent carcasses, making hygienic skinning more difficult. When cattle forefeet are removed on the bleeding rail, the exposed joint surface is vulnerable to contamination from hides of

adjacent carcasses." It says the process of cutting into legs presents particular problems. Hide opening cuts were made from foot to hock, cutting inwards and transferring dirt to the carcass. Dirty knives were used to flay hide and swapping of hands, from holding hide to touching exposed carcass, without a hand wash, were frequent observations. Poor access to sinks and sterilisers was common."

The report says that in chilling and freezing areas. contamination was evident on some carcasses in most abattoirs. "Contamination with stomach or intestinal contents and faecal contamination from poor dressing practices. were observed.

"Faecal pellets and rectal tissue in sheep, hair and singeing residue in pigs (from the process used to remove hair on pig carcasses) and bile staining were also noted." The

auditors also inspected conditions in areas where meat and offal are packaged. They com-"The hygiene handling of wrapping and packaging materials for offals was generally poor ... Hand washing practices were poor in this area." Meat due to be sent out from

plants was often held in areas without temperature controls. Loading bays were frequently not refrigerated and meat was allowed to remain in these areas for long periods, with resulting elevation of carcass or offal temperature." Containers holding the meat were often of an inappropriate size or shape and marked with bloody finger-

and blood leakages from ruptured vacuum packages. In areas where carcasses were cut, the inspectors found meat contaminated with faeces, nail and hair debris, bone dust, oil, grease and dust.

prints, boot prints or oil marks

In smaller plants, it was not uncommon to find dogs and cats wandering around in anciliary areas, the report says. In some cases they were encouraged by food put down for them by abattoir workers. "This practice is not desir-



Professor Bill Swann, whose report was suppressed

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Embryo watchdog says cloning of humans could benefit mankind

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

THE creation of human clones might bring benefits to man-kind and should not be outlawed, the chairman of the authority set up to regulate embryo experiments said yesterday. No blanket prohibition should be imposed on human cloning but the existing law may need "tweaking" to ensure any future experiments are properly controlled, Ruth Deech, of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, said.

Although the prospect of producing fatherless identical human beings was repugnant to many people, the potential benefits should not be ignored and they would never be realised if a total ban on such research was imposed, she said. Giving evidence to the Commons Science and Technology Committee, which is holding an inquiry into cloning following the success-ful creation of the cloned sheep, Dolly, at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, Mrs Deech ruled out the production of human beings as "banks" to provide organs or bone marrow for transplant, or as "consolation" for be-

reaved parents who wished to reproduce a beloved child. But she said it was essential to retain flexibility in the law to accommodate future scientific developments so that projects could be assessed on merit.

A possible application of human cloning already being suggested, which might be acceptable, was in the treatment of sufferers from a rare inherited disorder of the mito-

She said the authority saw itself as the "thin blue line standing between public con-cerns and scientific advance". We are concerned, as I think Ruth Deech: said law most members of the public might need tweaking are, about the possibility of ignoring the individuality and value of each human being as

an entity in himself or herself. I think we all feel that the manufacture of human beings to serve other people's ends must be a bad thing." We take our responsibilities to the public very serious-

"power plant of the cell".

which surround the nuclei of

cells which can cause blind

ness and epilepsy. By removing the nucleus - minus the

from an embryo created by in-

vitro fertilisation in the nor-

mal way and placing it in a donated egg stripped of its

own nucleus, a doned baby

could be created that would be

the genetic offspring of its

parents without the inherited

disorder. Other potential ap-

Mrs Deech, who has been

chairman of the authority for

two years, said that public alarm about the Roslin experi-

ment, although understand-able, had been "extreme" and

it was now time to step back

and consider the possible

benefits and dangers. There

was no cause for panic as

human experiments were not

Council

refuses to

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imminent, she said.

come evident in the next five

defective mitochondria

ly. We would never want to licence any treatment that would be risky.

She said the legal framework laid down by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act of 1990 provided adequate safeguards but there was a question whether the definitions of "embryo" and "fertilisation" were broad enough to cover cloning. The best way forward would be to broaden the definition, if neccesary, and retain the "subtlety" of the Act. Under the Act, the cloning of human embryos is banned and any work on an embryo outside the womb requires a licence from the authority set up to oversee the act. However, the research at the Roslin Institute involved the cloning of an adult cell taken from one sheep, the nucleus of which was fused wun an egg

second sheep. It was not clear whether this created an embryo, within the meaning of the Act. A barrister's opinion was being sought and would be available "with-

Common herd to follow Dolly

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

THE same methods used to clone Dolly the sheep may soon produce cloned cows. Scientists in Denmark and Australia are using the technique developed at the Roslin Institute in Edinbugh to produce identical copies of cattle. The Danish scientists, from

the National Institute of Animai Sciences' laboratory at Viborg, are using cells from freshly slaughtered animals in the attempt to clone cattle,

New Scientist reports. They take immature eggs and remove the DNA from the nucleus of the cells. They also take adult cells from the cows' ovaries, and use the DNA from these to replace that removed from the immature eggs. fusing the two together by exposing them to

an electrical current. genetic material in the egg results from a single cow cell, and the resultant calf would be a clone of the donor cow. "Our donor cows had been dead around half an hour when we collected the cells" Dr Peter Holm of the Viborg laboratory says. "The culture system we use is more or less

the same as Roslin's." An Australian team led by Dr Alan Trounson at Monash University in Clayton, Victoria, is using much the same method. They get their donor DNA from cells taken from foetuses or cells from the ovaries of live cows. Neither team has produced live offspring, but Dr Trounson told New Scientist that he believed at least a dozen laboratories around the world were working on the technique.

Dr Ron James, managing director of PPL Therapeutics, the Edinburgh company responsible for commercial development of the Roslin work, says that there would be technical obstacles to cloning the dead. "The DNA must be intact. If an animal is dead, the DNA will rapidly decom-pose. You can't just put it in the fridge and clone it later." A HYBRID bird that looks like a chicken but behaves like raised by a Californian scientist whose work could eventually help to treat human brain damage. The "chail", or "quacken" was bred under a microscope at the Neurosciences Institute in San Diego using a brain cell transplant technique pioneered in France. From studying the brains of the birds scientists

hope to find ways of restoring

ing certain functions to the

human brain.

in weeks," Mrs Deech said. Regulations governing em-bryo research differed across

The COPERATIVE BANK

Europe and there was a possibility, as in the Diane Blood case, that patients could circumvent British laws by travelling abroad for treatment;



MOST domestic telephone users would get a better deal by switching from BT to another supplier, according to a report issued today.

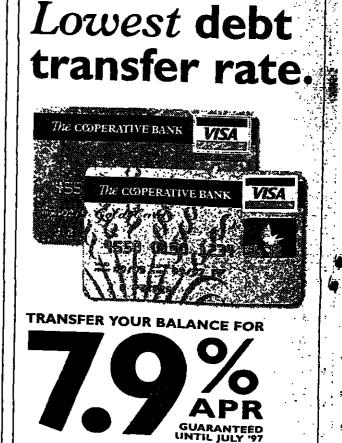
Despite well-publicised discount schemes, the report claims BT is the most expensive option for most people. The Consumers' Association says that most families could cut their bills by 20 per cent or more with another company. Only those whose call bills are less than £12.69 a quarter get a better deal with BT, under the light-user scheme, it says.

When the companies were compared using a typical quarterly bill, which averages £53.43 including rental costs and British calls, all of BT's rivals were cheaper. The report says: "Our re-

sults show that BT's much trumpeted discount schemes. such as Friends & Family and Premier Line don't save much off most people's phone bills. The discounts are only

given on your call costs and make no difference to the line rental charge — which ac-counts for at least half the value of the bills for a large proportion of BT customers. Its report, published in Which?, says companies such as Bell Cablemedia, Cable London. ComCast, Ionica and Nynex, offered a service which was consistently a quarter or more cheaper than BT.

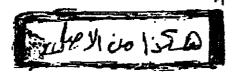
A BT spokesman said: "Customers should look carefully at their own calling patterns they will automatically make any worthwhile savings with another company."



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THE ISSUE ! hdog says lumans mankind

Boat finally comes in for Hong Kong civil servants

By Catherine Field in hong kong and Mark Henderson

ONE of the last groups of expatriate civil servants in Hong Kong will invoke a final privilege from the dying days of empire when they set sail for home from the colony

Fifty-three officers and their former directors of the colony's Treasury and Social Welfare departments, will leave for Southampton at sunset tonight aboard the luxury Oriana cruise ship at the Hong Kong taxpayers' expense. On Saturday the QE2 will pull away from her Hong Kong berth with a second group of more than 100 retir-

ing civil servants. They are benefiting from an old perk of the colonial era which entitles them to travel home by sea rather than air when their assignment ends. One reportedly flew back from his retirement home in Northern Ireland to board a luxury

The cheapest accommodation for the 34-night journey aboard the Oriana — a fourberth cabin with shower costs £3,300 per person. The Oriana's most exclusive and expensive cabins, the Premier Suites, cost more than £12,000 per person for a double room with an ocean-view balcony. A single first-class air fare with British Airways from Hong Kong to Heathrow costs

Hong Kong taxpayers are paying almost £1 million this financial year on travel costs for former civil servants, on top of the £40 million already earmarked for the retirement compensation package for British civil servants leaving the territory. Officials receive

£100,000 whether they serve on after 1997 or not. The retiring members of

Her Majesty's Overseas Civil Service will enjoy more than four weeks of cosseted life in the Oriana's luxury cabins, as they cruise the seaboards of the Indian and Atlantic Oceans. The ship will call at Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia, Singapore and Mauritius, before continuing to Durban and Cape Town, Walvis Bay in Namibia, the Cape Verde Islands and Tenerife. The

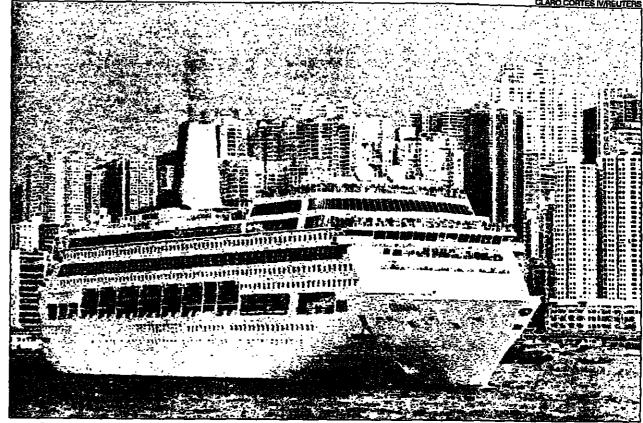


compensation of about the Gulf of Thailand before visiting Bangkok, Bombay, Dubai, Muscat and Aqaba. The QE2 then sails through the Suez canal and on to Haifa, Athens, Naples, Cadiz and Lisbon en route to

> Between ports, Oriana passengers can amuse themselves at West End shows, films and concerts, sun themselves beside the ship's three swimming pools or choose between three restaurants, nine bars and four dancing areas. Cabin stewards will serve breakfast in bed, shine shoes and dim the bedroom lights when guests turn in.

QEZ passengers must content themselves with six bars and have no theatre to attend, although they have seven restaurants. Many civil servants preferred the Oriana to the QE2, saying she has better facilities and classier service. although the QE2 gets through 73,000 bottles of champagne, 12,500 boxes of cigars and 2,500lb of caviare

Oriana carries 1,800 passengers and 760 crew, and



The cruise ship Oriana in Hong Kong. Fifty-three civil servants and their families will return home on her

officials from P&O, who operate the ship, said last night that the vessel is full for the journey. "This is a beautiful, luxurious ship. I think these will have a lovely cruise," said Thomas Fong of

well on is a

P&O. travel perk was scrapped for civil servants joining after 1984, although an exception was made for the Governor, Chris Patten, who will leave aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia on the stroke of midnight on June 30 when

The departure of civil servants before the handover

reflects among officials about work prospects under Chinese rule. Hong Kong's efficient and meritocratic civil service has been an exception among Asian bureaucracies noted for red tape and rampant corruption.

☐ Hong Kong: Britain and

China have agreed that interthe transfer of sovereignty on June 30 without having to submit to political scrutiny (Jonathan Mirsky writes). Hugh Davies, the Ambassador, said journalists will only have to go through normal accreditation procedures.

Council refuses to house sex offenders

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

paedophiles. CONVICTED sex offenders and drug dealers Rould be denied council hous-

ing by a local authority. Rhondda Cynon Taff coun-cil in South Wales is the first to demand that prospective tenants declare criminal records, especially those involving sex, children and drugs. If they do not, and a criminal record is discovered, the tenants could lose their homes. There will be a right of

The council's housing committee acted after residents in the village of Hawthorn successfully fought to prevent David Simms, a convicted paedophile, being housed by the council when he left prison. Council officials visited Simms in jail and got him to agree not to live in the area.

If an existing tenant is convicted of a crime involving paedophilia, sex offences or drug dealing, they could also be evicted under legislation allowing the council to prevent anti-social behaviour.

Councillor Judith Burford, chairman of the housing committee, said: "Our unanimous decision was taken to stop paedophiles from living close 🚁 children."

on violence

By Alexandra Frean

TELEVISION watchdogs agreed yesterday to set up a working party on screen violence, in response to pressure from the Conservatives and

The BBC, the Independent Television Commission and the Broadcasting Standards Council said that the new body would work on establishing common criteria for assessing the amount and degree of television violence. It is to be chaired by someone from outside the industry.

Mrs Bottomley said that television companies needed to ensure that violence was not shown when children might be watching. Dr Cunningham said that a Labour government would impose tough standards to protect

TV industry establishes study group

MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

The agreement was reached at a seminar in London on screen violence, organised by the three organisations and attended by Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary. Cunningham, and broadcasters and programme-makers. troducing cinema-style ratings for television

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Scientists discover how enzyme makes cancer cells grow

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

SCIENTISTS in Scotland have discovered why the cells in tumours go on multiplying out of control

The research may lead to new screening tests for cancer. and new ways of treating it. according to the team from the Cancer Research Campaign's laboratories in Glasgow, led

by Dr Nicol Keith.

They have found why an enzyme called telomerase, which is active in unborn babies, is also activated in many cancers. Babies need to grow very quickly, and the enzyme makes that possible by suppressing the controls which tell cells to stop dividing after a certain time.

In adults the suppression of such controls is harmful, leading to cancers which grow uncontrollably. The Glasgow team has studied the gene responsible for making part of the enzyme, and found that it is located in a section of chromosome three which is often observed to be abnormal in human cancers.

This indicates that genetic damage involving the telomerase gene may underlie cancer. In 97 per cent of samples from cervical cancers. the team reports in the journal Oncogene, there was evidence that the gene was present in multiple copies, which would lead to greater production of

This discovery is exciting because it could have implications for new therapies and diagnosis," Dr Keith says. "We are also delighted to be the first to publish this find-ing, despite a lot of international competition."

Professor Gordon McVie. Director-General of the Cancer Research Campaign, said: "This is the first report of a genetic alteration involving

Keith: discovery widens

understanding of cancer

салсет. The discovery unpeels another layer in scientific understanding of how cancer starts. It explains a lot of what we observed in cancer but didn't understand." Dr Keith says.

telomerase in human cancer.

To scientists across the world,

this discovery fits like a jigsaw

with what we already under-

stand about cancer development. It undoubtedly offers

hope for cancer patients because over the next few

years we could develop a

cancer diagnostic test and may even be able to develop new

So far the team has studied

only one of three genes in-

volved in making telomerase.

They now plan to search for

the other two and trace wheth-

er genetic damage to them may also be implicated in

anti-cancer drugs."

It also provides a new target for cancer therapy. Since the enzyme relomerase is functioning in the cancer cells but not in the healthy cells, a therapy that would prevent it operating should stop the cancer in its tracks. This has already been proved in tissue culture. Dr Keith says, and could provide a new approach to cancer treatment.



The former picture restorer David Webster with the chip that he plans to have inserted into works of art

Chip developed to identify stolen art

By Dalya Alberge ARTS CORRESPONDENT

COMPUTER chip developed for identification of the casualties of war has been adapted for investigation into

stolen works of art. A former picture restorer and dealer has had the technology developed so that a similar chip can carry details of a painting, sculpture or piece of furniture into which it has been inserted. The history, description and provenance of any work of art can be read with a scanner. Officers from Scotland Yard

and representatives of the National Gallery and the Tate are believed to be among those who will attend a demonstration tomorrow.

The chip, no larger than a grain of rice, is completely camouflaged once inserted and impossible to locate, said David Webster, managing di-rector of Eidetic International, based in Somerset.

He said that £500 million worth of insured art was stolen in Britain each year. "The police find criminals but can't prove the items they've found belonged to the person they were stolen from." The latest technology — a sort of invisible electronic fingerprint - could identify the objects and link them directly with their owners. Almost any material other than silver can take the chip.

The idea came to Mr Webster while he was watching the BBC's Antiques Road-show. As he researched the subject, he stumbled upon technology developed by an American company, Destron Fearing, in the late 1960s for fighter pilots in the Vietnam War, to replace the ID tag they wore around their necks. It has been used since then for

medical records and to protect endangered species. Mr Web-ster said that Destron Fearing had given him exclusive rights to develop the technology for art in Europe and claims that the technology goes far beyond existing

marking systems. He will display the device at the Museums and Galleries Commission, showing how his "readers" costing a few hundred pounds can call up the data with a scanner. Instailing the chip costs about £40 an object, but museums committing themselves to 1,000 items would pay £12.

STENSINGE Dunblane parents launch book

Parents of some of the 16 Dunblane children shot dead with their teacher by Thomas Hamilton published a book yesterday to mark the massacre's first anniversary on March 13. Dr Michael North, whose daughter Sophie, 5 died, said the book confirmed how well human nature could cope with adversity. □ Dunblane: Our Year Tears by Peter Samson and Alan Crow (Mainstream, £12.99). All profits to Save The

Train stab case

A 17-year-old youth was charged with the attempted murder of Alison Kennedy; who was stabbed with a commando knife on a train. Magistrates in Guildford, Surrey, remanded him in custody until March 13.

Drug withdrawn

An anti-flea treatment which is claimed to have killed nearly 100 pet cats and dogs was withdrawn from sale in Britain. Virbac, the manufacturer of Droplix, said it was temporarilly suspending sales of the product.

La Plante libel

The writer Lynda La Plante accepted undisclosed libel damages in the High Court from the Daily Express over a claim that she had breached a contract with two ex-prisoners whose story she used in the TV series The Governor.

Cadets spared

A York judge granted two men conditional discharges because they would lose places at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, if jailed or put on probation. They admitted causing an affray and damage in a pub car park.

Portrait stolen

A portrait of the Rev William Buckland, founding father of geology, has been cut from its frame at Oxford University. It was stolen from the library at the Department of Earth Sciences, to which only university members have access.

Window on past

The Department of National Heritage has issued an emergency "spot listing" on Pontin's 1937 Riviera Hotel in Weymouth, Dorset, prompted by the district council's concern that original panoramic

Rare animals die

Twenty-five animals including lizards, fruit bats and prairie dogs were suffocated by smoke in a fire at the Desert World section of the Island Amazon Adventure centre for endangered species at Newchurch. Isle of Wight.

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Microdot will put burglars on spot

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE microdot, that favoured tool of the Cold War spy, has won a new role in the battle against burglary.

The dots that once held secret messages and were disguised as full stops in letters now contain a householder's postcode. They are being used to mark items that are likely to attract thieves.

With the dots attached by glue, their makers claim they are the ultimate deterrent to theft. They are virtually invisible to the naked eye, about the size of a full stop," said David Northey, whose Lutonbased company Alpha Scientific invested £2 million in

developing the idea. "A thief has no idea of how many, or where, the dots are," he said. "Even if he knows the piece has been treated and tries to remove them, he can never be sure if he has got

The dots come suspended in a heavy-duty adhesive in a a pot of nail varnish. Each contains up to 1 000 microdots and the buver can delicately blob or coat his item as he wishes. Each dot can include a postcode 60 or 70 times. There is an eye-catching label to be displayed in a prominent position for potential burglars to

bottle with a brush, similar to

The system was found to cut theft dramatically when Cleveland police offered it to people and organisations with vulnerable equipment in Stockton-on-Tees. Dots are also being offered on Jaguars, scattered throughout the cars. Yesterday West Yorkshire

Police began offering pots of dots to the public at a £7 discount on the usual price of £25 a bottle. Othe forces will follow. West Yorkshire patrol cars are being issued with a combined magnifier and torch. It enlarges the dot more than 60 times to enable the information to be read.

Tourism hits new records

By Dareh Gregorian

A RECORD 26 million overseas visitors came to Britain last year, while a record 43 million Britons went abroad. According to provisional figures from the Office of National Statistics, the rise in the number of visitors was due to a 12 per cent increase in tourists from western Europe, up from 15.3 million to 17.1

per cent increase over the previous record year of 1995. and the amount they spent rose 5 per cent to a new high of £12.67 billion. It was the fifth successive year both visitor numbers and spending had risen, the report said.

The number of visitors from North America rose slightly, from 3.883 million to 3.896 million, and from the rest of the world from 4.799 million to 4.981 million.

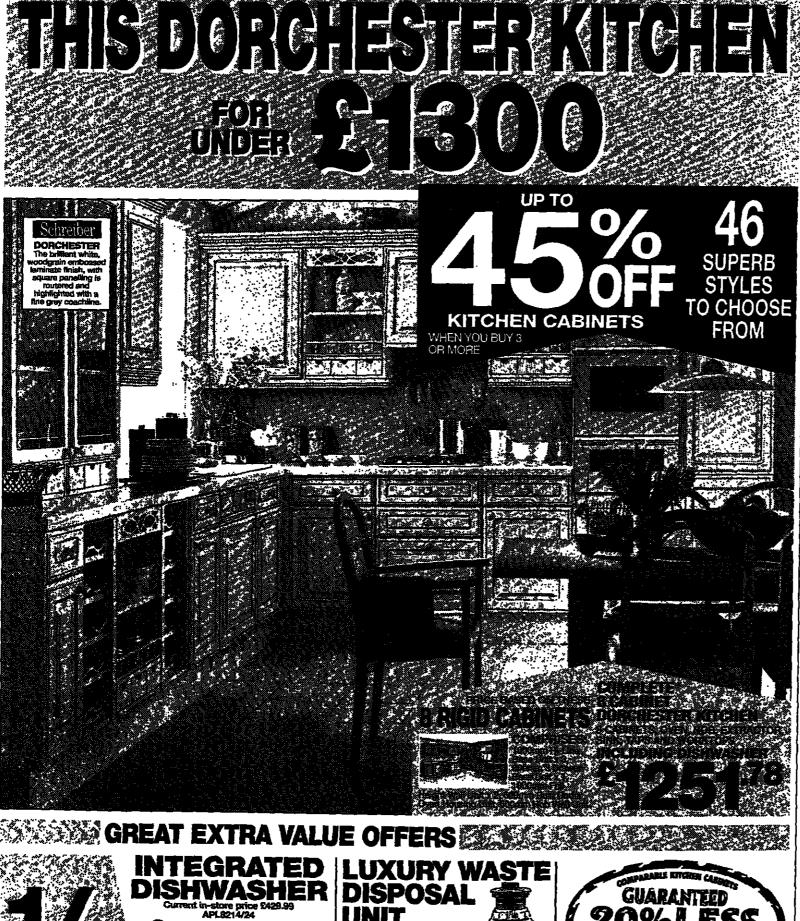
The most popular destina-tion for British tourists was western Europe, which saw 34.5 million visitors, up from 34.1 million in 1995. Almost 3.8 million Britons went to North America, up from 3.2 million the year before, and 5.1 million went to other areas of the world, up from 4.5 million in



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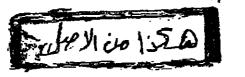


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RETAILER'S QUOTE



RK RK HOME NEWS

Princess reaches secret cash deal with sacked maid

A ROYAL housemaid who claimed that she had been Infairly sacked by Diana, Princess of Wales, accepted a compensation deal yesterday which she described as "better than winning the lottery". Sylvia McDermott, 44, who

spent nine years cleaning the royal apartments at Kensington Palace, came to an amicable agreement with lawyers acting for the Princess minutes before an industrial tribunal case for unfair dismissal was about to start Miss McDermott, who had

earlier rejected an offer of £5,500, declared that she was "very happy" with the settlement, reached in a consultation room at Croydon Industrial Tribunal. The amount has not been disclosed. Smiling broadly, she said: "It's been a horrible six months but it's all over and I'm really pleased with the putcome. If you believe in something, fight for it because everyone deserves justice." Asked if it was like winning the National Lottery, she re-

plied: "It's better than that". The Princess was equally claiming victory. A statement her office said that Miss McDermott accepted that she had been made redundant rather than unfairly

dismissed and had dropped her demand to be reinstated. It added that her compensation settlement was "considerably less" than the maximum of Ell,300 that a tribunal can award.

"Diana, Princess of Wales is delighted that a settlement has been reached which vindicates the position she has adopted all along", the statement said. The applicant was dismissed on September 20, 1996 and was informed that this was for reasons of redundancy.

The applicant has now agreed that she was dismissed by reason of redundancy, she has abandoned her claim for reinstatement and she has accepted a sum by way of compensation very substantially below what she had been

demanding."

Miss McDermott, from Co
Durham, earned £9,000 a
year with the Royal Household and was given a grace-and-favour flat for her duties. which often included travelling abroad. After the Prince and Princess of Wales separated in 1992, she remained with the Princess. She was expected to tell the tribunal that she had had two meetings with her employer, who had complamed about the standard of

was being made redundant. She was to have claimed that another maid was immediately appointed to fill her post.

At 10.30am yesterday the parties entered the tribunal room and David Pannick, QC, for the Princess, told the chairman, Jane Mason, that a "full and final" settlement had been reached which was to remain confidential. The hearing lasted four minutes and no witnesses were called nor evidence given. The Princess's valet, Paul Burrell, who was believed to have been a possible witness, appeared but left without commenting.

Miss McDermott, who has moved in with her partner since losing her home, left the building arm in arm with her barrister. Anu Kapoor. She thanked her lawyers, friends and family but declined to reveal her career plans. "I want to go on with the future

now," she said. She is the latest member of staff who have left the Princess's employ. Last year her chauffeur, Steve Davies, resigned, as did her personal assistant, Nicky Cockell, and her public relations adviser Jane Atkinson. In January this year the Princess parted company with Victoria Mendham. one of her closest aides.



هكذا من الإعلام

Sylvia McDermott yesterday: the payment "was better than winning the lottery"

Theatre is torn by 'Stitch and Bitch' row

BY GLEN OWEN

TWO female costume makers took the management of the National Theatre to an industrial tribunal yesterday, claiming they had allowed a culture of sexism to flourish during last year's production of Mary Stuart Joan Coleman and Nicky

James claimed that their manager referred to them as "Stitch" and "Bitch". They told the hearing at Croydon, south London, that they were sexually discriminated against by Kate Morrow Smith after she brought disciplinary proceedings against them in March 1996. Ms Morrow Smith said they had failed to supply a dress on time for Isabelle

Huppert, lead in Mary Stuart. The women also claim that despite being aware of "sexist and derogatory references" the theatre's management took no action and allowed a disciplinary process without foundation to continue.

Mrs Coleman denied that she had been abusive to the wardrobe supervisor who had arrived to collect the dress. She claimed that she had politely refused to supply the dress because it still had pins

The women claim that they are now unable to work normally at the theatre. Mrs Coleman said she was being ignored by colleagues and kept out of plans for future shows. The hearing continues.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



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Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

BOUNTY hunters scouring the beaches of Norfolk yesterday for a yellow submarine missing in the North Sea. A £20,000 reward has been offered for finding the 9ft-long vessel, which was surveying the seabed.

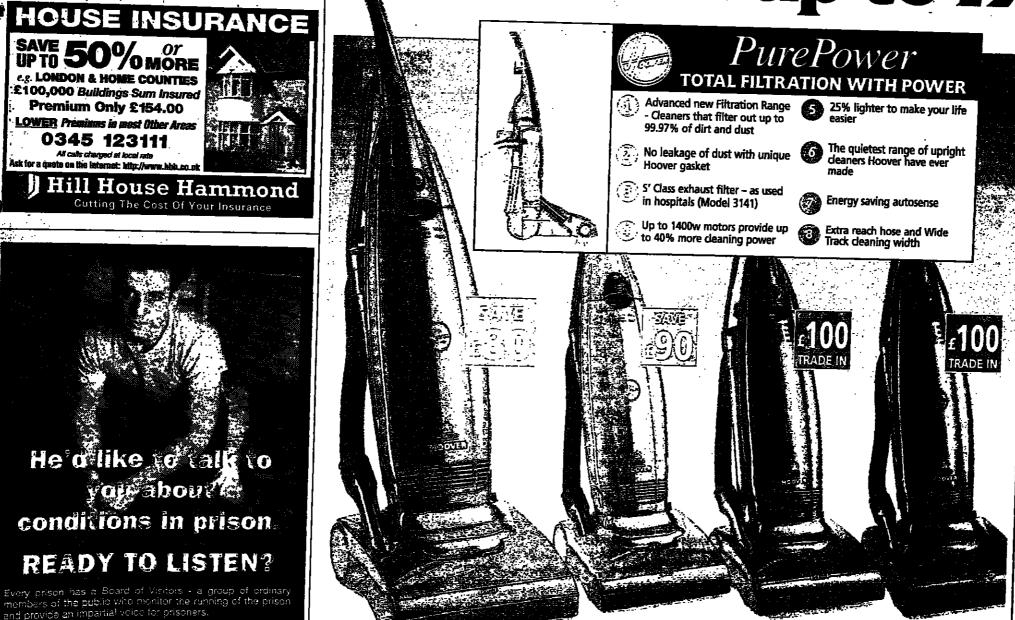
The remotely controlled £200,000 mini-sub slipped the 'umbilical cord" connecting it to its mother ship and was lost two miles off Bacton. Super Scorpio (SS Explorer) is likely to be washed up within

the next few days after boats and helicopters hired by Submersible Television Systems failed to find it.

The submarine, one of eight owned by the Aberdeen-based company and the first it has lost, is likely to surface between Great Yarmouth and Cromer, a distance of about 25 miles. The top of the 5ft-high sub features a bright yellow buoyancy aid and the base is an aluminium frame fitted

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Major says reforms offer new security in old age

CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government's pension plans are the "most fundamental enhancement" of the state scheme since it was introduced, the Prime Minister said yesterday.

Under the plans, people in their early twenties and below will be given rebates from their national insurance contributions of £9 a week to put into personalised pension funds as soon as they start their first job.

The state earnings related pension scheme would also disappear although the Government would top up each person's pension fund with 5 per cent of their earnings every year. Individuals would be able to add their own contributions to the funds.

The Government hopes that the sum accrued would be more than the current state pension entitlement of £61.15 a week, but Mr Major insisted that if necessary the State would be prepared to step in to top up the income.

The "Basic Pension Plus" scheme will not take effect until the end of the next Parliament at the earliest, if the Tories win the general election. The changes will be phased in over a generation and will not affect those in work who are already in their twenties or older or existing

Mr Major said the package was about increasing security in retirement, not threatening The proposals we are GOVERNMENT SCHEME

by enabling every young person to accumulate an investment fund that could yield more than considerably their basic state pension entitlement.

He insisted that the State would continue to guarantee that everyone would receive at least their basic state pension. uprated at minimum for inflation. Peter Lilley, Social Security Secretary, said that a person on average earnings could expect to build up a fund worth £130,000, which would provide a pension of £175 a week. This is based on someone earning £350 a week and the assumption that the funds will earn a 4.25 per cent annual rate of return.

Mr Lilley said that if the economy and investments did well the returns could be even better. "If returns are I per cent higher than assumed, they will get a pension nearly 30 per cent above the basic

THE Tories' biggest manifes-

to idea so far took shape as Peter Lilley relaxed at his

French holiday home last year (Philip Webster writes).

He had heralded plans for

overall pension reform in his

Mais lecture of 1993, but with

his long-time special adviser Peter Barnes lelt that other

Lilley, influenced by his study

Back from France, Mr

aspects must come first.

pension. If the yield is 2 per cent higher, the pension could be over 70 per cent higher." But Labour sources insisted

it was highly unlikely that the funds would achieve more than the basic state pension. The aim of the scheme will be to switch the financing of state pensions to savings and investments funded from reductions in national insurance contributions rather than through taxes and charges.

Mr Lilley said that in the longer term the Government could save £40 billion a year. But there will be considerable medium-term costs for whichever party is in government. Mr Major said that the scheme would not be fully implemented till 2040.

The Government would be faced with a bill of £160 million a year, from the time the plans became law, which would build up exponentially to a peak of £7 billion a year in

Idea's time had come

stein, both former heads of

think tanks that had examined pension Around the turn of the year Mr Lilley took his proposals to the Prime Minister. Secrecy was paramount - there was a history of leaks on social security matters. A handful of ministers were told but not until Tuesday the Cabinet's home affairs

Leading article, page 19

been saved by equalising the state pension age at 65 and

gradually phasing out Serps.

They denied that tax rises

would be needed in the next

Parliament to pay for the costs, but did not rule out tax

rises in future. They also

admitted that income tax cuts

would be much harder to

achieve once the high costs of

Social security sources said

that no one would lose out

under the plans. The unem-

ployed would get credits to-

wards a guaranteed basic pension, as would the sick and

the disabled. However, the

credits would not be invested

in the fund, so those people

would not get the chance to

boost their pensions through

investment while they were

Non-working housewives,

will as now be entitled to half

the basic state pension, irre-

spective of whether they have

ever worked. Those in employ-

ment will also have the right to

Mr Lilley also announced

pension funds will no

tax relief changes. Payments

longer be tax deductible but

no tax will be levied on

the pension once it has built

were a fine example of Conservative thinking. "It is a reform that reflects the best traditions

of this Government's philoso-

phy. It is dealing with the

long-term issues in a far-

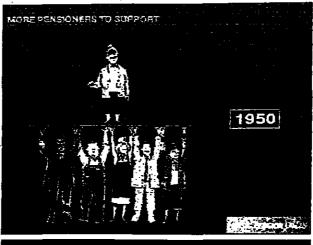
sighted way."

Mr Major said the reforms

a separate pension fund.

out of work

the changes started biting.







Providers' role will be vastly expanded

THE MINUSTERY

By SARA MCCONNELL

THE fortunes of Britain's 20 million personal pension holders lie in the hands of life companies, banks and building societies. Between them. they manage contributions worth an estimated £6 billion. The Government's proposals mean a hugely expanded role for such private sector companies. For the first time, they will be responsible for investing basic state pensions on behalf of all eligible people as well as earnings-related

and top-up contributions. But the industry has come under fierce attack from consumer groups and others for selling expensive and com-plex pension plans that perform poorly and provide an inadequate fund at the end. The Consumers' Association recently described most personal pension policies as a rip-off and said people should put their money into other investments. According to research by Bacon & Woodrow. the independent actuary, the difference between the best performing personal pension and the worst last year was more than 13 per cent a year.

The industry's reputation has been severely damaged by the continuing scandal of mis-selling of personal pensions, An estimated 558,000 people were encouraged to leave company schemes in favour of less advantageous

Schemes. will be vetted and listed

REGULATION

BY SARA MCCONNELL

CITY regulators are to have an expanded role in keeping a list of approved pension schemes deemed fit to accept money from the public.

The main responsibility will rest with the Personal Investment Authority, which regulates most life companies, banks, building societies and financial advisers selling pensions. But regulators have a patchy record of protecting the public. They have been accused of leniency with the companies they are supposed to be monitoring and slowness

to react when scandals surface. The Securities and Investments Board and the PIA, its junior partner, are still trying to contain the fallout from the pension mis-selling scandal in which more than 500,000 people were wrongly advised to withdraw from their employer's scheme and take out personal pensions. It took regulators nearly four years to han such transfers. It took nearly another year before SIB decided the structure of an industrywide review of cases of possible mis-selling. Very few people have been compensated. and victims are bypassing the review and going to court.

SIB has decided not to investigate claims that many people on low incomes were advised to opt out of Serps into personal pensions. Many would have been better off

of the Chilean system, bounced his ideas off David Labour's reaction is depressing kneejerk politics at its worst

ohn Major yesterday pro-duced the first Big Idea of the 1997 campaign, and an original and farsighted one it is too. Of course, there are many questions and loose ends. But the boldness of the Basic Pension Plus plan devised by Peter Lilley, like many of the Government's most radical contrasts with Labour's caution on policy.

The initiative offers an interesting and attractive long-term solution to the steadily rising cost of providing pensions for an ageing population. It involves extending the principle that, while the State should remain responsible for

guaranteeing that everyone has a minimum income on retirement, there is no reason why a pension cannot be provided by the private sector. This already happens with second pensions for those opting out of Serps. The Government will, however, have to offer more reassurance about the management of such private funds after the controversy over mis-selling of personal pension schemes and worries over

high administrative costs. Moreover, a funded scheme offers the probability of a higher pension than merely inflationproofing a fixed cash sum. This should ensure that pensioners are

REDELL ONPOLITICS

better off unless you take an extraordinarily pessimistic view about long-term investment returns. In that case, public sector finances would probably be so bad than any pension guarantee would have to be broken.

Shifting from a pay-as-you-go to a funded basis inevitably involves transitional costs as some younger taxpayers both pay for existing pensions and their own provision. The very long phasing-in period and the end of tax relief for pension

contributions reduces the additional cost. The total net cost will rise to nearly £7 billion a year by 2040. This is smaller than the current Serps rebates and the costs over 40 years are a fraction of the rise in tax revenues that occurs as a result of a

growing economy. Gordon Brown sounded affronted yesterday at the very suggestion of a proposal that might cost money, even over 40 years. He is perhaps entitled to a few moments of outrage given the extravagant and exaggerated Tory charges he has had to face in recent months about alleged Labour spending commitments. But his talk of the

"huge" implications for spending and tax rises is wildly over the top. Moreover, he knows that any long-term solution involves additional spending for a time.

Labour's reaction was a depressing example of knee-jerk opposition politics at its worst. Several of its claims were either wrong or alarmist. Harriet Harman's comment about the abolition of the basic state pension is misleading since after 2040 the state will still guarantee an inflation-proofed pension. References to denial of security and choice are grossly misleading, while saying people will be forced into private provision and pejora-

HL-730 6 pages per minute, 600 dots per inch, Straight paper path tive references to "privatisation" are hardly "new" Labour. The party's strategists have decided to play short-term electoral politics, ignoring the fact that if Labour wins the election it will face exactly the same dilemmas and will have to shift provision more to the private sector.

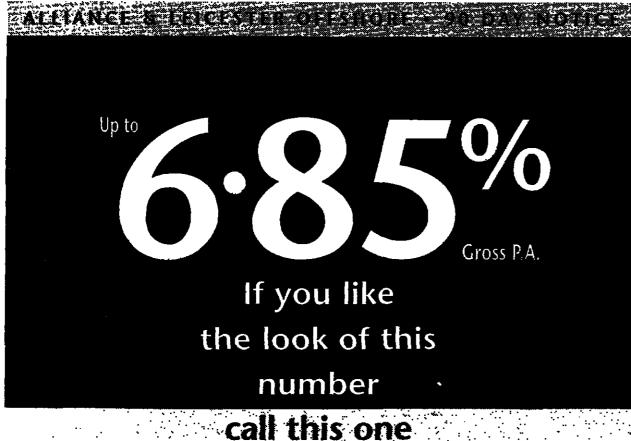
Of course, the Tories are also playing an electoral game. As Labour complained, announcing the proposals in the pre-election period is hardly the best way to secure a cross-party consensus. But the plan is a rare example of a government being willing to think long-term, even though there are

no obvious short-term financial or political benefits. The likely gainers will not even start to retire for at least 40 to 45 years. The Tories intend to pitch their appeal to parents — we are going to look after your children and their pensions". Labour's scare campaign you cannot trust the Tories with your pension - may, however, be more effective. But it is paradoxical that the most adventurous policy ideas are coming from a party which has been in government for 18 years, while the Opposition prefers a safety-first approach.

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PETER RIDDELL



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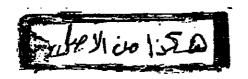
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Tories inspired by dictatorship close to economic ruin

By Arthur Leathley, Anne Ashworth and Gabriella Gamini

A PRIVATE pension scheme introduced under a Latin American dictator as his country faced economic ruin is the inspiration behind the Government's package of radical reforms.

The Chilean model of pension provision, introduced under General Pinocher's military regime, has prompted the world's politicians to beat a path to Santiago to discover how - and whether - the system works.

Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security, has held talks with José Pinera. the economist and former Chilean minister who founded Chile's revolutionary system.

Dr Pinera visited Britain

last year to outline his plans to politicians intrigued by the apparent success of a scheme that has dramatically reduced Chile's social security deficit and is expected to wipe it out in 30 years.

Chile privatised its pension system in 1980, replacing a near-bankrupt state scheme with individual retirement accounts. Workers are required to pay 10 per cent of their earnings into one of 18 funds. These funds control about £12 million. equivalent to nearly half of Chile's gross domestic market.

The system has already been copied by other Latin American countries. Argentina. Peru and Colombia have introduced similar schemes, with others such as Mexico and El Salvador in the process of setting up the system. In these countries however, it is optional for workers to join private pensions funds.

Among the most recent pol-itical visitors to Chile was a

CHILEAN MODEL

group of British MPs from the Social Security Select Committee which is investigating the success of the scheme.

Frank Field, the committee's Labour chairman and a close confidant of Tony Blair, is attracted to the idea of making people responsible for their own pension commitments. But he was struck by the dangers inherent in the Chilean system in which a person's pension is not underwritten by the State and in which many of the poorest workers are excluded from the scheme. Two out of five people are ineligible, many of them

the poorest workers.
"It would be far more sensible to minimise these risks of capital markets performing badly or of taxpayers not wanting to meet too large a pension bill — by combining the best of existing systems. This would give us the certainty of a state pension on a payas-you-go basis plus a second funded pension for everybody.

Madsen Pirie, president of the Adam Smith Institute, the right-wing Tory think-tank, was quick yesterday to point out several key differences between Mr Lilley's proposals and the Chilean pensions Chile made the change

"overnight", while the Tories are proposing phasing the plans in over a period of time. The Chilean scheme also offered no guarantee on returns, Dr Pirie said, while the Conservatives' plan would guarantee that participants would receive at least their basic

Whatever the assurances, the

poor will be left dependent on

Mr Field is more persuaded

by an Argentinian model in

which workers can contribute

to group pension schemes run

by trade unions or other

organisations, which offer

the Chilean scheme based on

its overdependence on the

local economy, the local stock

market and the soaring cost of

running the funds. A survey

last year showed that there

was widespread misunder-standing about the scheme.

There is also some dissatisfac-

tion that the military was

entitled to remain in the old

state scheme, as they insisted that their payroll details

taking a close interest in the Chilean model are more con-

vinced of its advantages. Last

year Geoffrey Clifton-Brown,

Tory MP for Cirencester, float-

ed proposals very similar to

those unveiled yesterday by

Other British politicians

should remain secret.

Mr Lilley.

There has been criticism of

Government charity."

greater security.



The first state pensioners received at most five shillings a week and had to be over 70

Liberals copied German model BY ALAN HAMILTON

CREDIT for the invention of the old-age pension in Britain must go to David Lloyd George, who as Liberal Chancellor introduced the first scheme in his 1908 Budget. The first state pensioners queued for their handouts at post offices on New Year's

Revolutionary it may have been, based on early welfare state experiments by Bis-

marck in the Germany of the 1880s, but generous it was not. Recipients had to be at least 70 years old, and the scheme was means-tested to exclude алуопе carning more than E31 a year. Even then, the maximum weekly payout was a niggardly five shillings (25p), which even at the money values of the time was no more than a last-resort safety net for the very poor. In the 19th and earlier

centuries, pensions were the

privilege of the fortunate few, either from meritorious military service or from long attachment to a well-disposed employer. Many of the giants of the present-day personal pensions industry have their origins in the early 19th century: Scottish Widows was founded in 1815 to provide pensions for women who had lost their menfolk in the Napoleonic wars, but what were being sold were essentially life insurance policies.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

☐ Who would the new errangementa affect?
Those in their early twenties and those yet to start work. The Government has reiterated that the new pro-posals would not affect the est of the working population

How would the Basic Pension Plus interact with company pension schemes and personal pensions? The Government would pay everybody a £9 rebate in lieu of the basic pension and a 5 per cent rebate in lieu of Serps. These rebates can be paid into a personal plan or company plan. About 12 million employees are currently in company pension

☐ Would Basic Pension Plus be any different from the pensions offered today? Tax retief on pension contributions will be scrapped — eventually saving the Government £8 billion annually. These savings will go towards paying the pensions of those not under the new arrangements. The Government claims that when the new pension is paid at retirement it will be entirely free from tax. Now only a lump sum received at retirement is tax-free. Only pensions that exceed yet-to-be-defined limits will be taxed. Despite the £8 billion anticipated savings, the Government estimates a further £8 billion will be needed for pensions for Tax relief on pension conneeded for pensions for those who will not come under the new proposels.

☐ How will the public know which company to choose to look after their pensions? The Personal investment Authority, the chief retail regulator, is planning to draw up a list of recommended providers. The Government providers. The Government claims the PIA will monitor the activities of these providers closely. Keeping costs down will be particularly important.

Brown to stay on cautious route

LABOUR

By JILL SHERMAN

GORDON BROWN, the Shadow Chancellor, yesterday made clear that a Labour government would not adopt the Tories' pension plans, on grounds of risk and cost.

The party will stick to its more cautious plan to supplement, rather than replace, the basic state pension with a second "stakeholder" pension which individuals can build up in private schemes. Last year Tony Blair dropped the costly pledge to raise pensions by £5 a week which John Smith, as Shadow Chancellor, had made at the 1992 general election. He ignored an expensive plan proposal from the Social Justice Commission, set up by Labour when Mr Smith was leader, for a minimum guaranteed pension more generous than the state pension.

Under Labour's latest plan, still at a consultative stage, pensioners would remain entitled to the basic state pension. linked with inflation, but younger people without occupational pensions would be encouraged to pay into a second pension. The government would still transfer the 4.8 per cent of earnings currently paid into occupational schemes for those contracting out of Seros. but pay out no additional rebate. Only schemes ap-proved by an independent regulator could be used for the takeholder pension.

Industry's poor record is a cause for alarm

Pinochet: privatised

By Anne Ashworth PERSONAL FINANCE EDITOR

IT WAS a relief to hear politicians at last facing up to the inadequacies of the state pension system and encouraging people to make proper provision for their declining years.

Few of us are saving enough for our old age. The announce-ment of the Government's plans coincided with a report showing that only 0.5 per cent of those with personal pen-sions contributed the maximum allowed.

It was alarming, however, to hear that billions of pounds in savings were to be placed in the care of an industry with a record for both abusing the a National Insurance rebate

ANALYSIS

public's trust and charging exorbitant sums for its services, with no guarantee of superior performance. The life insurance industry has settled only a tiny portion of the £4 billion compensation due to those wrongly advised in the late Eighties to leave company pension schemes with guaranteed benefits for poor-value

personal pension plans. It has behaved dishonourably to thousands of the lowpaid workers who have opted out of the state earnings related pension scheme since 1988. Those who leave Serps receive

which is paid into their per-sonal pension but the high life insurance company administration and commission charges deducted rebates can leave little left to be invested.

employees that they should be making contributions in addition to the rebate, allowing them to labour under the cruel delusion that they could expect a handsome pension. Salesmen encouraged workers in their forties to leave Serps, although it is accepted that those in middle life should rejoin the state scheme.

The Government seems convinced that its plans will not mean a repeat of the personal pension scandal, believing that life insurers have learnt their lesson. The Prime Minister also expressed the view that costs would be "markedly lower than for exsting schemes".

Eager at the prospect of so much new business, the life insurers were anxious to show that they had turned over a new leaf, reassuring everyone in earshot that charges for these plans would be cut to the bone.

The belief that costs will be lower is based on the elimination of the unfortunate salesman and his fat commission reward. The argument runs that since everyone will be obliged to have a new Basic Pension Plus, nobody will be required to sell them.

Experts were however. sceptical about this claim. As one analyst put it: You may not need anyone to sell these new pensions, but you will certainly need someone to provide advice on which fund to choose. In America, where pensions were reformed a decade ago, problems have arisen because financially unsophisticated workers made the wrong choice of fund. If life insurance companies provide advice, then this will raise their costs. If they don't provide advice, who will?"

Ministers also made much of the role that the investment watchdogs will play to ensure that our savings are kept from harm. This is another cause for scepticism. The investor watchdog bodies presided over the personal pension scandal, and have so far failed to ensure that the victims receive their redress or punish the worst culprits. For those weary of waiting

for their compensation, the Government's proposals may have an unexpected beneficial side-effect. The watchdog organisations will compile a list of insurers who will be entitled to invest Basic Pension Plus contributions. Companies will not wish to be excluded from this list and so should have an incentive to settle their compensation liabilities forthwith.

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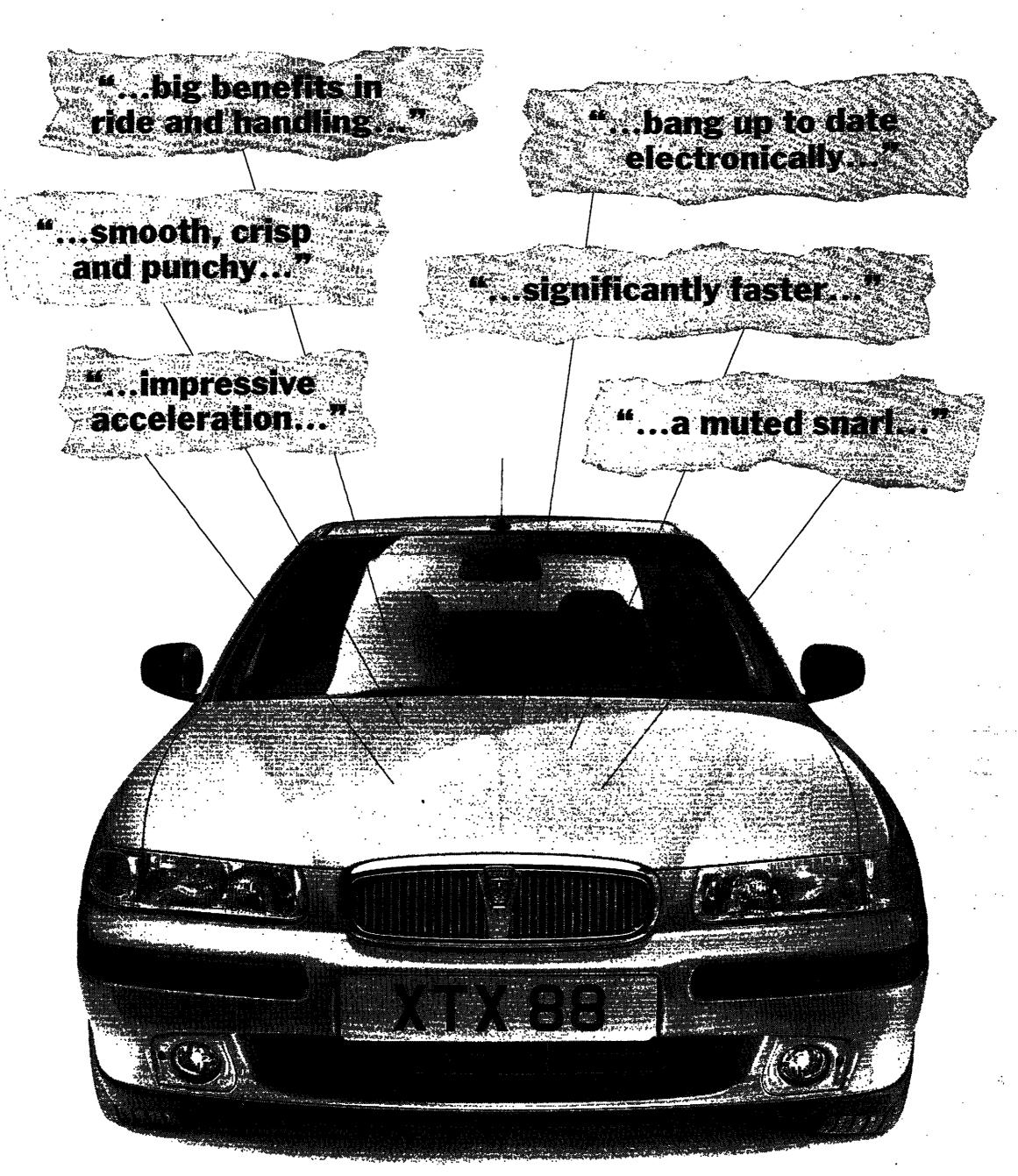
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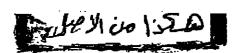
BE HONEST, DOES THIS SOUND LIKE A DIESEL?

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By AUDREY MAGEE IRELAND CORRESPONDENT EVIDENCE of diamonds and sapphires has been discovered in northwest Ireland. Cam-

bridge Mineral Resources believes it will find large numbers of the precious stones in the northern part of

the the Inishowen peninsula, a

sparsely populated area of

The company, which is to launch on the Alternative In-

vestment Market of the

London Stock Exchange on Friday, found the traces ten

days ago after it was granted Ireland's first diamond-

prospecting licence last

August.
David Bramhill. managing director of CMR, which is valued at £3.5 million, said he

was "very excited" at the initial

results. But he said news of the discovery had nothing to do

with the floation. "This discov-

ery was made as we prepared

Donegal.

Surveys find former submarine base on Clyde is among the dirtiest estuaries in world

US navy left Holy Loch polluted by toxic waste

BY NICK NUITALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

SURVEYS have shown that Holy Loch in Scotland is contaminated with dangerously high levels of toxic waste and littered with junk after the closure of the US Navy's nuclear submarines base on the Clyde.

Ministry of Defence studies reveal that concentrations of heavy metals, hazardous transformer fluids and other toxic chemicals are so high that many break European environmental safety limits. The levels of contaminants in the muds are so high that Holy Loch, used by the Americans from 1961 to 1992, has become Britain's dirtiest estuary and one of the world's filthiest stretches of coastal

Almost a quarter of the loch floor is strewn with rubbish, including girders, oil drums, washing machines and air ducts. A clean-up is planned by the Royal Navy and the local authority, but there are fears that disturbing the mud may release even more contaminants into the water.

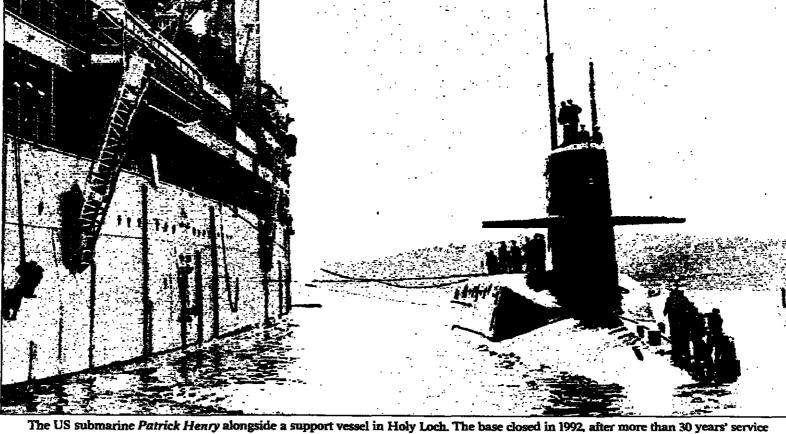
The Americans used Holy Loch as a base for servicing and refitting up to ten nuclear-powered submarines. Hundreds of servicemen were stationed there.

The level of contamination is shown by comparing the maximum concentration of nickel found elsewhere in British estuaries - 58 milligrams per kilogram of sediment - with Holy Loch, where concentrations reach 326mg. There are similar readings for zinc, chromium. and copper.

The surveys did not check for radioactivity. But one sample did find levels of a known carcinogen, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, at six times the safe limit.

The findings have come from two reports, produced by Environmental Resources Management, a consultancy based in Edinburgh, for the MoD and backed up by an underwater video survey carried out by the MoD in 1996.

Under Nato agreements, Britain is obliged to clean up the Americans' mess. The MoD, the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and the Argyll and Bute council



are planning to remove the iron wastes using a crane and large electromagnet.

But Graham Shimmield, director of the governmentfunded Dunstaffnage Marine Laboratory near Oban, fears the clean-up will disturb the muds, causing high concen-trations of toxins to be released into the water.

Dr Shimmield is also concerned that the level of contaminants may be far higher than shown by the surveys. They took samples from deep layers of mud rather than the higher layers, which may be even more heavily polluted. Holy Loch has a population

of sea trout and salmon which may be vulnerable to pollution released from the muds during the clean-up, which is to begin in the autumn. Contaminated silt could also be washed ashore and come into contact with people. Dr Shirnmield said.

He fears the operation, in which piles of metal in some cases six metres high will be removed, might also disturb containers of the toxic antifouling chemical, tributyl tin. on US Navy operations, which He met the MoD earlier this ceased in 1992. He said pollution had been carried from the upper to the week to discuss the extent of the operation and told New

problems than it solves." admitted that only the Ameri-An MoD spokesman said cans knew what they had discharged. The Americans the clean-up, which is re-quired under European law know more than we do," he before the loch can be handed on to a civilian company, Clyde Ports, was designed to minimise mud disturbance. He said concentrations of

Scientist magazine: "The

clean-up could cause more

metals and other substances

in the mud could not blamed

Dr Shimmield said research over the past five years showed that heavy metals and organic compounds can behave in "fairly unpredictable ways" once disturbed. The

lower Clyde for hundreds of

years into Holy Loch. But he

marine life most at risk was likely to be oysters, mussels and other shellfish, which were eaten by people.

He said that the MoD had agreed to monitor the marine environment during the cleanup and had promised to stop if any harm was caused.

Dr Shimmield said environmentalists who argued that waste must be removed at any cost should appreciate the potential dangers. "We need sound science to assess the risk rather than acting from

for our stock market launch. It is a very good coincidence." he "We were legally and morally obliged to issue our find-ings. These shares are

ings. These shares are absolutely high risk. They are only for people with a lot of disposable income who can take a risk. Nothing is

CMR, which also operates in Sweden and Spain, became interested in Ireland when it emerged that a area of sapphire-laden rock in Scotland stretched into Donegal. The 20 million-year-old rock con-tains kimberlitic and lamproitic minerals — substances common to all areas where diamond and sapphires are found. Diamond is an older version of sapphire.

Next month a team of six geologists working with a budget of £150.000 will begin a more detailed study of the rock and minerals.



Cleaner Don tempts back the otter

PAUL WILKINSON

AN OTTER has been sighted in a once

highly polluted water system for the first time in almost quarter of a century. Naturalists have reported seeing the creature and its tracks on the banks of a tributary of the River Don, which runs

through the former steel and coal indus-

try sprawl of south Yorkshire. This 'is cracking news," said Peter Bowler of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, "It shows that conditions along the river system are improving and wildlife is returning." An otter was last seen in the region in 1973, at Thorn Waste, an area of flatlands close to the River Ouse. But that is almost 20 miles from the latest sighting and away from the region's industrial The Don was once notorious for having

one of the worst polluted tributaries, the Rother, in the country. It had been contaminated by industrial workings and seepage from a dump for environmentally hazardous waste. Mr Bowler said the return indicated

rapid improvements: "Only five years ago the Don was still unable to support the kind of coarse fish like perch, roach and tench which the otter can feed on. "But it is not so much the water quality

as the state of the banks. Otters like to lie quietly during the day in scrubby undergrowth like brambles or rosebay willowherb. Until recently much of the riverbank was controlled by collieries and other heavy industry and this sort of habitat just did not exist. Our task now is to encourage it to stay. We will be talking to landowners and local councils with a view to developing bankside habitat."

Otters were once a regular sight on the county's waterways. The name of Attercliffe, a district of Sheffield, is a corruption of otter and the neighbouring area of Salmon Fields indicates their

Environmentalists say the south Yorkshire otter will have come from groups active more than 40 miles away either to the north along the River Derwent in North Yorkshire or south from the river networks of Nottinghamshire.

Chicks give virility the bird

SCIENCE EDITOR

FEMALE birds have emasculated their male companions by preferring those without a penis, according to two biologists. Once nearly all male birds had a penis but today only a small minority do. The experts say that fe-

males have systematically favoured the underendowed because it gives them greater control over reproduction. Birds mate through the "cloacal kiss", in which the male deposits sperm from his clo-

aca, or pelvic cavity, on his partner's. The female draws up the sperm, storing it until she is ready to lay eggs.

Females produce the best offspring by accepting only the best sperm. Although they can reject eggs that have been fertilised, this is wasteful. A better strategy is to draw up sperm only from favoured males, which is much easier if they lack a penis and cannot

inject directly into the female. Dr James Briskie, of Oxford University, and Dr Robert Montgomerie, of Queen's University in Kingston, Ontheir penises over many thousands of generations because of this selection by females. So why do a few species

including the ostrich and

large aquatic birds such as geese, retain the penis? In these species, argue the biologists, whose work is reported in New Scientist, the egg is small in relation to the size of the bird, so the female can dump fertilised eggs at relatively little metabolic cost. She does not have to make the decision until after the males have had their way with her.



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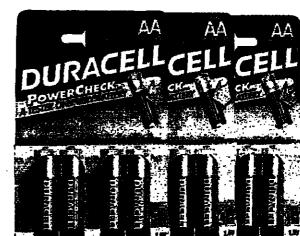
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Tirana moderate calls for broad-based government coalition to end growing spiral of violence

Opposition accuses Britain of giving lifeline to Berisha

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN TIRANA

AS ALBANIA descended further into outright civil war yesterday, a leading member of the Albanian Opposition accused Britain of having given Berisha enough oxygen to become a dictator".

Neritan Ceka, leader of the Democratic Alliance and a potential successor should President Berisha fall, said whereas some Western countries, such as Italy and the United States, have put serious pressure on Berisha to form a broad-based coalition to solve the national crisis, the British Government has largely supported him".

He said certain forces on the right wing of the Conservarive Party" seemed prepared to back Mr Berisha even when he used the feared secret police to enforce a state of emergency. "I regret to say the same is true of some sections of Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democratic party in Bonn," he told The Times in an interview. "It is high time Britain and Germany cut off his air sup-

ply." He applauded Washington's strong condemnation this week of Mr Berisha's state of emergency and his "stifling of free expression". Lamberto Dini, the Italian

day that, if a "broad-based government" was established Tirana. Italy would be ready to send troops to help to restore order. He told La Repubblica the only way forward lay through an interim coalition involving both members of Mr Berisha's Democratic Party and the Opposition, followed by "fair elections" within 45 days.

financial and technical aid to help an economic recovery." Italy, only 40 miles across the Adriatic from Albania, fears a repetition of the exodus of desperate Albanians which Foreign Minister, said yesterfollowed the collapse of the Communist regime in 1991. Western diplomats in Tirana said that, as the Govern-

> administration and even form a new government. Mr Ceka, a dapper, silverhaired archaeologist and political moderate, is regarded as a respected figure acceptable to

ment increasingly lost control of the situation, the search was

on for "credible" figures who

might serve in an interim

Berisha's charge that the revolt had been instigated by "Red terrorists", saying it was

clearly a "spontaneous rebel-

lion of the people". He added:

An Italian soldier guards the old MiG15 flown by two defecting Albanian pilots. Tirana denied their claim that they were told to shoot at civilians

Right and Left. His Democratic Alliance is a breakaway group from the ruling Democratic Party and was formed by former Berisha loyalists. They gave a warning after Mr Berisha's landslide election victory in 1992 that the Democranc Party was becoming as monolithic as the Communist

Party it replaced. "This armed uprising could be ended tomorrow if Berisha agreed to a cross-party coali-tion," Mr Ceka said. He agreed there were mafia gunmen, criminals and provocateurs among the rebels, "but most are ordinary people who blame Berisha for the collapse of the pyramid funds and want him out. He has become

an outright dictator. If he

included the Opposition, guarantee that people would lay down their guns."

The Democratic Alliance is one of 11 parties in the Forum for Democracy formed last month in response to the crisis. Its chairman is Kurd Kola, a respected former political prisoner under the Enver Hoxha regime. He is also seen

Another opposition contender for power is Fatos Nano, the former Socialist (ex-Communist) leader jailed by Mr Berisha in 1994 for 12 years on charges of corruption. His cause has been taken up by

Amnesty international and the Left has dubbed him the "Nelson Mandela of Albania". Many Albanians, however, remain distrustful of the So-

cialists, who form the core of the Forum for Democracy. since they include some unrepentant Communist militants. Mr Ceka said he firmly believed that if the Socialists gained power they would work with centrists such as himself in the Forum. "But the first priority is an interim government of all parties to

Signor Dini rejected Mr agreed to a government which 20% off.

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Desperate nation hangs on BBC's treasured words By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THREE times a day, amid rioting, tension and lawless-ness, Albania's city streets fall still: the nation is listening to the BBC. Virtually the sole source of news commanding the trust of Government and Opposition, the demonstrators and the desperate, is the Albanian service beamed on

short wave from Bush House. Never has the BBC's credibility been so urgently tested. President Berisha has accused it of stirring up vio-lence. The local FM transmitter was switched off after the declaration of emergency, and secret police threatened journalists. Phones have been bugged and cut. Freelance reporters, fearing for their lives, have been urged by London to stay indoors.

Yet every politician, every faction, hangs on London's words and is clamouring to make its voice heard. "Tell him we don't broadcast declarations." Tim Cooke, the Albanian service head, called across the room yesterday to a broadcaster being harangued down the phone line

by an ethnic Greek Albanian MP. "We can interview him." The British newspaper editorials had just been translated and transmitted, together. with the interview by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, on the Radio 4 Today programme. A few minutes later Namek Dokle. one of the Socialist former Communist) leaders was on

the line, trying to put his view.
The Albanian service, started four years ago after a break of 25 years, is manned by eight Albanian staff. Their families back home are receiving death threats. No one has slept more than a few hours this past week.

As the plug was pulled in Albania, short-wave broadcasts began transmission from London and Cyprus: one 30-minute broadcast has been given an extra 15 minutes, and Mr Cooke hopes the other two will be 45 minutes soon. President Berisha, irritated by unprecedented questioning of his Democratic Party programme, has little time for the BBC; for three years he has refused to give it an

Mr Cooke is bitter at the essure being put on correspondents. But he does not doubt their influence. As the Democratic Party held a crisis meeting three weeks ago on whether Aleksander Meksi should resign, the Prime Minister kept slipping away. He was calling the BBC correspondent to find out what was happening in Viore.

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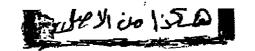
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crute nation is on BBCs ured words

Jets seen dropping bombs on village but defence officials deny orders to hit civilian targets

ه ي العلمان العلمان

Rebel barricades go up in south as army advances

THE state of emergency tightened in Albania yesterday as fighting appeared to intensify in the south and the Govern ment rejected all offers of foreign mediation.

Telephone lines south of Tirana were cut, but accounts filtered in during the afternoon of tanks speeding towards the port town of Sarande, north of the Greek border. Journalists said they seen Chinese-made MiG15 jets drop a bomb next to two houses in the village of Livina, near Sarande, and the smoke from two more bombs. About 400 families, most belonging to Albania's ethnic Greek minority, live in the

village. The Defence Ministry yesterday denied claims by two MiG pilots who defected to Italy on Tuesday that they had flown there rather than obey orders to fire on a column of civilian vehicles near Gjirokaster. "This is totally untrue," a ministry statement said. It said the pilots had been on a reconnaissance mission.

A journalist with the Greek television station Antenne said rebels had built barricades outside Sarande and had organised regular street patrols. Near Sarande, armed gangs seized an army tank from its crew and drove it gleefully through the streets. Clashes with government troops were reported near

Albanian tanks, dispatched by President Berisha to rip into the heartland of the uprising, will face spirited resistance, Tom Walker reports from Tirana

Delvine, halfway between Sarande and Gjirokaster, which is now the main base for the Albanian Army in the rebel-controlled south. Injuries were rumoured, but Greek television said the fighting had stopped as rebels abandoned a plan to march on Gjirokaster. Four villagers and at least two soldiers were reportedly wounded in fight-ing six miles east of Sarande.

Further north, towards the capital, rebels were said to have blown up a road bridge near Fier, in a desperate attempt to stop more army tanks reaching Vlore and Sarande. The Government was said to be considering

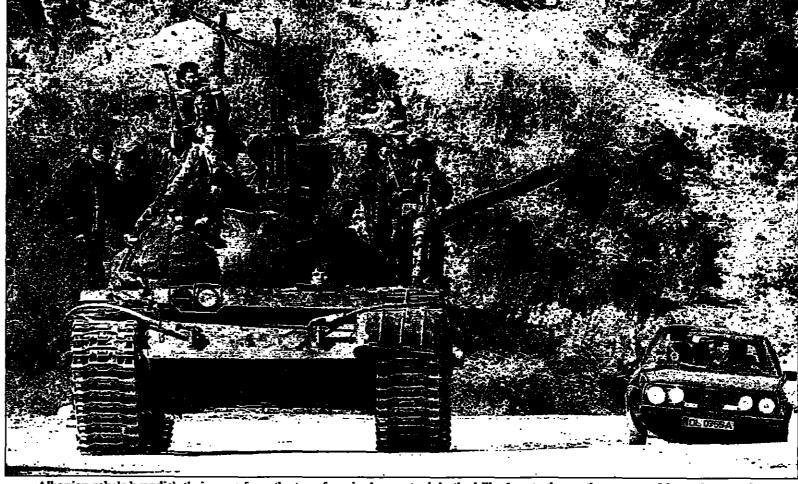


shipping tanks south to avoid similar guerrilla attacks. An Albanian Red Cross convoy was allowed to take

antibiotics, blood and surgical materials to Vlore hospital. Vlore is also Albania. You have to make a distinction between the population and the terrorists," said Tritan Shehu, the Foreign Minister. Albanian state television cancelled its main afternoon

news bulletin, and with anxiety spreading in the capital many opposition politicians and journalists were in hiding. General Sheme Kosova, the Army Chief of Staff sacked on Tuesday, was said to be under house arrest. European diplomatic sour-ces confirmed that visits,

scheduled for today, by the European Union's Dutch presidency and by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe had been postponed. They said President Berisha wished to complete his military clampdown along the southern coastal belt before considering any offers of foreign diplomatic inter-



Albanian rebels brandish their guns from the top of a seized army tank in the hills close to the southern town of Sarande yesterday

Regular police and their leather-jacketed colleagues in the secret police, the Shik, were out in force. Any dissent met with a swift response. Four policemen set about a stallholder near the statue of Skanderbeg, the national hero, beating him semi-con-scious. With blood pouring from his ear, the man was kicked into the back of a police

moved up a gear, with telephones monitored and cut regularly. Local and foreign media correspondents were followed. The locally relayed BBC broadcasts on FM remained off the air - although direct shortwave transmissions from London continued. No opposition papers were printed. We have been told through the government papers that the souls of the Fiat Tipo and taken away. dead in Vlore surround our offices," said one journalist

who had not been home for four days. His family is also in hiding. This is what you earn for telling the truth." International pressure re-

mains scarcely visible in Tirana, but International Monetary Fund sources were talking yesterday of halting a \$27 million (£16.8 million) standby loan to Albania. For Albanians themselves the civil unrest is disastrous: in Viore a loaf of bread now costs three times the price in Tirana.

Government grain stores in Vlore were raided on Tuesday night, and municipal officials warned of famine conditions regarded in the besieged town. stalwart.

The Government blames the violence in the town on former army officers, who it said yesterday were under "the influence of communist and foreign insurgents". Mr Shehu urged a more concilia-tory line than the President, imploring Albanians "to come together and protect the country". Commentators said the comments were unusually mild for Mr Shehu, who is

There was speculation that Tuesday's joint Italian-Albanian evacuation of journalists and civilians from Vlore was used as a dress rehearsal by the army for an assault on the port. A diplomatic source, however, was sceptical: "It's too clever a move for a stupid

Regime's German patronage puts paid to united European front

By James Pettifer

🕻 eneral Colin Powell, in a phrase counselling against Balkan involvement by modern mechanised armies, said: We don't do mountains". His dictum might have been tailormade for southern Albania. But President Berisha's forces are having to try.

With serious fighting in the Greek minority south of the country, the logistical and technical capacity of the Albanian Army is going to be tested to the limits in the next few days. There are, on of precipitous mountains which

- COMMENTARY

paper, about 54,000 men in uniform, of whom 22,000 are conscripts. Most are in the army, with about 6,500 in the air force, and a very small navy.

There are many practical difficulties in the way of a quick and clean operation — as the seizure of a tank yesterday by rebels in Sarande showed — quite apart from the mass desertions from key southern barracks. Much of the country, even in the south, consists

offer perfect refuge for armed men, as the wartime partisan resistance demonstrated. Supply lines may be a serious

problem, as most fuel has either been stolen by the rebels or set on fire. Local barracks have been gutted and any operation lasting longer than a few days may mean troops having to live off the land, among a largely hostile popula-tion. Many ill-trained and badly motivated conscripts may vote with their feet, and go on the run

Control of the roads is likely to be a key issue, with agents of the secret police, the Shik, now merged with Interior Ministry forces, a key Berisha weapon. They are nearly all loyal northerners, and owe their

careers to the President. How effective they will be outside Tirana remains to be seen. It is unlikely that anything other than a small proportion of the looted weapons will be recovered. f the Albanian leaders had

been hoping for support from Nato in the military action, they will have been disappointed by the strong statement from Javier Solana, the alliance's Secre-

tary-General, yesterday, urging a diplomatic solution. After a London meeting, he said: "In Albania at the moment. politics has to be done; diplomacy has to be done. It is not for a military operation by Nato or anybody

Nato has interests in Albania which have gone largely unnoticed in the West. Between 1992 and 1995 the Albanian Defence Ministry in Tirana was full of uniformed US advisers, and the ClA took over Giaider airbase, north of the capital, to fly unmanned observation drones over Serbia. There are US facilities on Sazan Island, in the Bay of Vlore, and listening posts on the borders near Serbia and Macedonia.

ith the cooling of the American link, after the American link, au.
Clinton Administration saw major rights problems devel-oping with the Berisha regime. Germany has become a key diplomatic and military supporter, seeking to build up Albania against Serbia. German advisers from the Konrad Adenauer Institute in Bonn were key architects of the Berisha re-election strategy last

Prussag has bought up Albania's chromium mines, its key industrial

Many Albanian army officers have been trained in Germany, in the context of negotiations over reequipment. Germany has much the most important outside stake in the survival of President Berisha, and EU efforts to develop a united response to the Albanian crisis have continually run up against German intransigence. There is clearly no chance of American or German military intervention.



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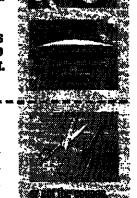
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Swiss plan a £3bn fund in memory of Holocaust victims

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

THE Swiss Government has offered to use about £3 billion if Switzerland's gold reserves or a "solidarity foundation" or victims of genocide and atastrophe worldwide.

The announcement was nade by President Koller to a oint session of parliament resterday in a speech on Switzerland's record during he Second World War.

He said the foundation was Jesigned to prove the nation's gratitude for being spared two world wars and to show compassion for Holocaust victims. It must, however, be approved by parliament. "If we want to give new meaning to the sense of solidarity and to public spirit, then we must do ... something capable of easing today's and tomorrow's suffer-

Although the Swiss appear to be assuaging international criticism of their wartime record with inquiries and compensation arrangements, the four-party collegial Government is facing a new battle at home. In an apparent change of mind, Mr Koller said that the national bank would also pay £45 million to a separate humanitarian fund for Holocaust victims, set up last week with Jewish groups. The three biggest Swiss banks have made a similar contribution. Until now the Government had insisted it would

decide on payments once it had received a first set of findings from an independent commission of experts investigating Switzerland's dealings

with the Nazis. The commission has promised to deliver in June an account of Switzerland's wartime refugee policy and the national bank's gold trade with the Third Reich. Swiss historians expect some of the

details to be "uncomfortable". Mr Koller said that the Swiss owed it to themselves to accept their past as it was: "We should not be ashamed of being spared by the war: we had the right to survive." But he added: "Through a lack of courage, people arriving at our borders in great distress were sent to certain death.

Israel cuts cash for survivor aid

yesterday over disclosure that the Israeli Government has cut funds for the only Israeli group provid-ing emotional support for Holocaust survivors and their children from about £100,000 to £20,000 (Christopher Walker writes). "It is a shame and a disgrace, opposition Labour Party.

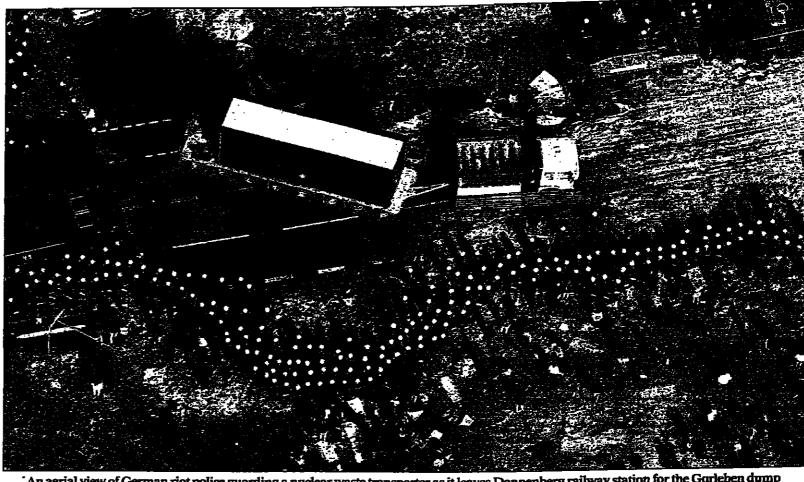
There, generosity would have

The foundation would take about two years to set up, although ministers want it to coincide if possible with next year's celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the founding of modern Switzerland.

The national bank said that the gold sales would take place over a period of ten years and would not disrupt world markets or the stability of the Swiss franc. The foundation is to be financed by valuation gains on gold reserves. By investing its start-up capital, the foundation would generate income of at least £100 million year, allowing its work to last for decades.

The proposal was welcomed

by Israel and Jewish groups. But rightwingers, including the Swiss People's Party, one of the government parties, signalled their unhappiness with the presidential statement. Christoph Blocher, one of its leaders, said the Govern-ment had "lost its head". He accused ministers of giving in to foreign pressure. Mr Blocher, who successfully campaigned to keep Switzerland out of the European Union, said the Swiss should not use public funds to compensate for legitimate wartime trade with Germany.



An aerial view of German riot police guarding a nuclear waste transporter as it leaves Dannenberg railway station for the Gorleben dump

Beaten anti-nuclear 'army' prompts rethink

FROM ROGER BOYES IN GORLEBEN

signed up as mediators, but tension and fatigue combined

to create flashpoints.

THOUSANDS of German protesters reluctantly allowed a heavily guarded 700-tonne delivery of nuclear waste to

end its 48-hour trek yesterday. But they celebrated a kind of victory: by the day's end many mainstream German politicians, shocked by the resistance, agreed that this Leading article, page 19 | should be the last shipment to

Gorleben. Petrol bombs again flew through the air and fire-works buzzed into police lines as protesters fought their last stand: the battle of the Quickborn road, a country lane cutting through potato and rape fields to the sad, blighted, north German village of

The 30,000 police were in-

structed to be on their best behaviour, the protesters had taken crash courses in nonviolent demonstrating skills lorries with spotlights, lumand 30 priests with megaphones and clipboards were

The largest display of civil force in Germany since the Second World War was answered by one of the most powerful exhibitions of civil disobedience for more than a decade. Scores of demonstrators were hurt, some suffering broken bones, when police broke up a crowd of about 4,000 squatting outside Dannenberg railway station early yesterday. They charged with batons and sluiced people with water but most were carried away in cradled arms. The convoy - bulldozers.

bering water cannon machines and dozens of police vans accompanied the six nuclear canisters — had to travel about 12 miles from the railway station to Gorleben. A farm cart could have covered the distance in 90 minutes; yesterday — thanks to the delaying tactics — — it was a ten-hour obstacie course.

A home-made bomb was found on the route and, again and again, protesters moved in to hurl stones and bottles. Near Quickborn village, mili-tants with masked faces set

light to tyres and haystacks. Casualty and arrest figures were vague, even at the end of the day. Many hundreds of demonstrators found themselves detained briefly during the week of protest, yet almost

all were free within hours. The Prime Minister of Lower Saxony. Gerhard Schröder. told his regional parliament this should be the last such shipment to the Gorleben dump, although its storage hall is far from full. Social Democrats in Bonn quickly echoed his views. The Christian Democrat-led Government will also be forced to rethink its nuclear strategy. Policing cost more than £30

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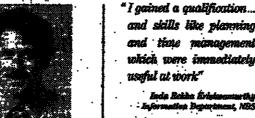


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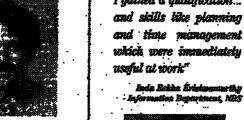


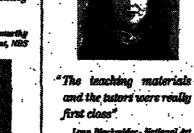






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Nato may keep Russia in the picture over Polish flights

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

NATO is considering offering the Russians daily photographs of air defence activities in Poland once Warsaw joins the alliance, to help to convince Moscow that expansion of the organisation poses no

Although Poland has not been officially invited to join Nato - that will happen in July at a summit in Madrid -Russia is continuing to warn alliance officials against moving military installations on to Polish territory.

One senior Nato source said the Russians were afraid that

Poland what Russia did to Poland - move in tanks and heavy armour". In private negotiations with alliance officials, the Russians have emphasised their opposition to "Nato machinery" advancing into Poland. Nato has been trying to reassure Moscow that it is not the alliance's plan. "Nothing like that will happen," a Nato source said.

However, the Russians have been told that if Poland joins the alliance in 1999 as expected, there will be a move to set up an air defence system that will be compatible with the the "alliance planned to do to rest of Nato's military struc-

ture. One Nato source said: "The Russians are doing just the same with the CIS [Commonwealth .- of - Independent States] countries and they understand the reasons why we need to have an air defence system in Poland."

However, as added reassurance. Nato plans confidencebuilding measures with the Russians. The most radical is a suggestion that Nato air defence activities in Poland could be photographed and the pictures handed to the Russians.

Letters, page 19

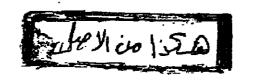
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Dampener

on France's

new library

Paris: Celebrations to mark

the opening of France's grand new library, the Bibliothèque de France François Mitter-

rand, have been dampened after officials admitted there

had been a flood in its archives

just a month after its inaugu-

ration (Ben Macintyre writes).

Shelves of materials in the

high-tech library were dam-

aged when swamped by fire sprinklers reacting to a false alarm on January 26. The electronic detection system

Republicans wrongfooted by budget vote

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

DESPITE Republicans' glee at the whirlwind of allegations about questionable fundraising hanging over President Clinton, they suffered a heavy blow this week.

The Senate's rejection on Tuesday of the cornerstone of the Republican congressional agenda — the proposal to force the Government to balance its budget — has left the party's strategy in disarray and enormously complicated the job of the next Republican to make a

phenomena of 1990s politics. election was that voters did not Congress, Republican leaders No matter that eminent economists such as Joseph Stiglitz, former chairman of Mr Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers, have queued up in recent months to say that balanced budgets are not necessarily a good thing. Polis repeatedly show that voters interpret budget deficits as a sign that "big government" is

Regrouping after Mr Clinton's re-election in November, which nonetheless left Congress in Republican control, the next Republican to make a run for the presidency in 2000.

The huge symbolic value of the budget deficit in the American public's mind is one of the

out of control

believe the promises of tax cuts spliced awkwardly into Bob Dole's campaign message. Instead, a promise to balance the budget appeared to give Republican economic policies the image of prudence that characterised the party's social

Washington: Congress is

stepping up efforts to force

an independent investigation

of Democratic fundraising

as top Republicans focus

attention on whether Al

the Vice-President,

announced that a balanced budget amendment would be the centrepiece of their agenda. It would insert into the Constitution a requirement that the federal Government should match its spending and its income in 2002 and every year thereafter, unless three fifths of each house of Con-

gress waived the rule. The time in two years, the amendplan should have received an extra boost on Monday from the Congressional Budget Office, the non-partisan body that prepares independent budget forecasts, which strongly criticised Mr Clinton's 1998 budget, now under debate by Congress

In the event, for the second

Pressure grows for Gore fund inquiry broke the law (Tom Rhodes dal. and Mr Gore's alleged

writes). Trent Lott, the Republican Senate majority comes as the Senate Judicialeader, has introduced a resry Committee prepared to olution demanding an indeinsist that Janet Reno, the pendent counsel examine the Attorney-General, agree to 1996 election campaign scanment fell just one vote short of the two thirds majority needed to pass through the Senate. Republican strategists are asking wearily what went wrong.

In part, Democrat senators

backed the argument that rewriting the Constitution was too clumsy a tool for fashioning economic policy and would reduce the Government's flexibility in coping with recession. But in the end, the decisive factor was the public's increasing fear, revealed in weekly polls, that social security and other government benefits might be cut in order to bring the books into balance.

Some Republicans were

amendment might be resurrected. But many others, remembering how the party was savaged in the election campaign for proposing curbs on healthcare spending, are nervous of reawakening the perception that they support

benefit cuts. They are probably right that a balanced budget is rapidly losing its power as a symbol of probity. The central problem, which the public has hazily recognised, is that social security and healthcare programmes are due to run out of money early next century. Any government is likely to have to raise taxes, make cuts or run a

Turkish

leader

bows to

military

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

TURKEY'S Islamist Prime

Minister, Necmettin Erbakan,

has signed a military-spon-

sored plan for a crackdown on

pro-Islamic radicals, ending a

stand-off with the powerful

Army, a senior military offi-

"The signing problem has been resolved," General Ilhan

Kilic, the National Security

The end of the stand-off had

agency as telling a meeting of

her conservative True Path

A private Turkish television

station also reported that Mr

Erbakan had bowed to mili-

tary pressure and signed the

The National Security

leaders and senior officers

from the military, which re-

army-sponsored plan.

Council includes

Council's secretary-general

rial said yesterday.

IN ANKARA

Koreas meet

failed to monitor the flood.

New York: North and South Korea held their first face-toface peace talks for a quarter of a century yesterday in a three-way meeting with the United States at a hotel here (James Bone writes). US officials described the meeting as a "joint briefing" by America and South Korea on proposals for a four-power conference --to include China — aimed at concluding a peace treaty for-mally ending the Korean War.

Sikh victory

Delhi: Relatives of Sikhs massacred in Delhi 13 years ago after Sikh bodyguards murdered Indira Gandhi have received compensation (Christopher Thomas writes). The mostly pairry sums acknowledged official connivance in the murders. Senior Congress party politicians who urged the killings have been too powerful to prosecute.

Seoul shuffle

Seoul: President Kim Young Sam of South Korea appointed Kang Kyong Shik, 60, as Finance Minister in a Cabinet reshuffle to deflect criticism of his handling of a slumping economy and a £3.6 billion loans scandal. The new Prime Minister, appointed on Tuesday, is Koh Kun. (Reuter)

Art tug-of-war

passed a law, attacked by the Russian and German Governments and subject to presidential approval, claiming ownership of artworks seized from

'Home Alone' star wins access to \$7m film fortune FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

MACAULAY CULKIN, now 16, has been granted access to his \$7 million (£4.3 million) fortune so that he can attempt to restore the imbalance childstar fame brought to his family life.

A New York judge ruled that Culkin's parents, who have squabbled and split, should no longer have control of his money. Responsibility will rest with an independent accountant and Culkin himself. His first purchase will be a Manhattan flat for his six

Manhattan's supreme court heard Justice David Saxe detail the sorry neglect that Culkin has suffered at the hands of his parents, Kit Culkin and Patricia Brentrup.



Culkin: from cute child

The notoriously difficult couple whose only income came from 15 per cent "management fees" from the film careers of their children, have spent all their money suing each other. Justice Saxe said there was "a real possibility" that Macaulay and the other Culkin children would be left without a roof over their heads unless he overruled trust fund arrangements keeping the youngster from his millions.

When Culkin made the film Home Alone in 1990 he was a cute ten-year-old said to have a future lined with gold and happiness. Today he is a beer-swilling, cigarette-sucking adolescent who has been used by his parents, robbed of his dignity and has lost his acting

parents "cannot be relied upon" and noted that rent on the four New York city apartments where the children live had gone unpaid for months. Macaulay Culkin has become undisciplined and neighbours said his nineteenth-floor flat was "party central", comparing it to a

railway station, such has been

the litter and noise and traffic

Justice Saxe said the Culkin

Kieran Culkin, 14, is the only family member currently working in films - co-starring in Freak the Mighty with Sharon Stone.



President Clinton, in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, comforts Judy Sligh, whose business was destroyed by tornados

Thousands flee as floods hit Midwest

By Quentin Letts

THOUSANDS of people were evacuated from their homes as severe floods, the worst for at least 33 years, hit the American Midwest. Twenty-four Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky counties were declared disaster areas amid roof-high floods in the Ohio River valley. Tennes-

their banks, forcing whole towns to be ruled out of bounds by exhausted

emergency workers.
The fast-flowing Ohio, rushing by with debris and battered vehicles, crested at 12ft above normal flood levels yesterday. The floods were caused by heavy rains. and a forecast of further rain suggested

see and West Virginia tributaries burst that the worst may yet be to come. Houseowners tried to move possessions into attics, but in towns such as West Point, at the confluence of the Ohio and Salt rivers, there was nothing to be done. More than four-fifths of its houses were submerged. The floods resulted from the weather system that brought late snow to the Northeast and tornados to the South.

gards itself as the guardian of Turkey's secular political Moscow: Parliament here

political

Mr Erbakan's decision to give in to the military pressure came amid heightened tension, caused after he rejected the 20-point military plan on Nazi Germany. (Reuter)

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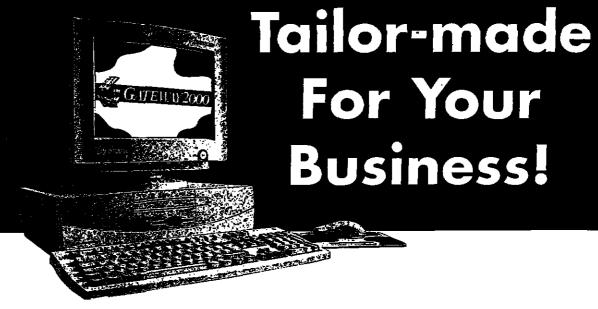
MARITAL STATUS (IF EITHER ADULT IS OVER 60)

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Sportsmen riding for a fall



Dr Thomas Stuttaford on why so many sports stars develop arthritis; prescriptions that are thrown away; pain at low temperatures; surgery to make hands look younger; and new investigations into fertility and population

is said that Willie Carson was Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's favourite jockey, and she will not be the only racegoer to miss his distinctive voice and determined but personable manner. She will, however, be better than most at understanding and sympathising with his reasons for retiring. For the Queen Mother is, like Carson, no stranger to the aches and

pains of arthritic joints.

Carson, 54, had a terrible accident at the end of last year. He is reported to have said recently that his joints and bones have been so badly battered by a lifetime in and out of the saddle that it has left him with residual damage which makes it impossible to push himself hard enough to keep sufficiently fit to meet his own exacting

Carson is only one of thou-Even the sands of athletes whose reward for a working life on the tracks dinosaurs and playing fields could be a row of silver cups on the sideboard — and a pair of sticks by the door seemed to with which to hobble around the suffer house when they are older.

with their

joints

The comment of the orthopaedic surgeon who said when looking at the distorted, swollen. painful knees of a former international rugby player "bring me an athlete of 50, and I will

demonstrate osteoarthritis" has gone into medical folklore. But it is only part of the

Osteoarthritis is not confined only to sportsmen and women, or even to human beings. All vertebrate animals, other than bats or sloths, may suffer from osteoarthritis. Even the joints of dinosaur skeletons have been eroded by it. It shows a racial bias; the Chinese, for instance, rarely suffer from osteoarthritis from the hips.

Early signs of degenerative joint disease

can be found in 10 per cent of people in their twenties. By the age of 40 the majority of knees and hips have X-ray evidence of osteoarthritis, and by 70 even the most slothful person who has never run after a ball, let alone ridden a horse, has some wear and tear in the joints.

Osteoarthritis has been described as joint failure, a degenerative condition in which the cartilage of the joint surfaces can no longer cope with the stresses they have to bear. The factors which contribute to this disease are multitudinous. The tendency to suffer osteoarthritis is genetic, but its advent

may be triggered by many causes, ranging from minor congenital abnormalities of the skeleton which place joints under regular tension, to a wide variety of diseases.

Other cases are brought on by endocrine abnormalities, by malignancy, by complex changes in the biochemistry of the body, or by overuse — whether as a footballer or as a farmworker. Particularly damaging to the joints are the traumas inflicted by such activities as steeplechasing, rugby football. or other contact sports. Doctors are not free of blame; osteoarthritis is a late conse-quence of most cases where there has been open surgery on a joint.

Patients want a drug which will reduce the inflammation and therefore the pain in

the osteoarthritic joint, allowing them a good night's sleep and freer, painless movement by day. Patients also want, how-ever, an anti-inflammatory drug which will not cause savage gut ache, diarrhoea, vomiting, or the risk of a serious adverse reaction resulting in perforation of the stomach or intestines, or a fatal

Two thousand people die each year from taking anti-inflammatory pills to treat arthritis — as many as do from cancer of the

A better understanding of the mechanism of the enzyme system responsible for the inflammatory processes controlled by pros-taglandins in a diseased joint has enabled doctors to produce a whole new group of anti-inflammatory drugs. These will reduce the inflammation, and therefore pain in the joint, without being likely to cause damage to the gastrointestinal tract or the kidneys, or to interfere with blood clotting. Most of these drugs will not be available

for three or four years, but the first, Mobic, is rapidly becoming established as a treatment of moderate to severe arthritis, including osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis. An alternative to Mobic is Arthrotec, which combines gut protector with the anti-inflammatory

As yet neither Mobic nor Arthrotec are totally safe but they are very much safer than previous anti-inflamatory drugs. Now, whenever my back or other joints are too stiff or painful. I'll take one of these two and will reject offers of other non-steroidal anti-



Willie Carson riding near his home last week after announcing his retirement

When patients won't take their medicine

alf of patients with serious chronic illnesses do not take the medication which has been so carefully prescribed for them by their doctor. and so expensively provided by the NHS. The pills and potions lie decaying in bathroom cupboards, or are thrown away. A year or two ago, one county collect-ed all unused prescriptions. The haul weighed a ton and

The cost of unused medicines extends far beyond the price of the prescription. Without carefully balanced treatment, the patient does not make the recovery expected and in consequence may need yet more therapy. There is no better example of the failure of patients to take prescribed drugs than is found in cases of high

Although hypotensive therapy is lifesaving, only 50 per cent bother with it so long as they are feeling well. When prescriptions are either not collected, or collected and abandoned, it is not only the doctor's time which is wasted. There is the additional danger that the doctor gains a false impression of the efficacy of the treatment recommended, and other patients may therefore be deprived of it.

A joint two-year investi-gation by the Royal Phar-maceutical Society and a pharmaceutical company, Merck, Sharp and Dohm, into non-compliance found that neither doctors nor patients were to blame in isolation. Their report said, for this reason, the term patient compliance was disliked because it seemed to attribute the problem only to the patient. Doctors tended to be too authoritarian and did not spend long enough explaining to the patient the nature of the illness and its symptoms and the way in which prescriptions would help.

Patients did not understand the need to explore with the doctor their worries about taking treatment. and often had no intention of swallowing their pre-

be an instinctive human reaction against swallowing chemicals, similar to that found in cows, which will leave the poisonous weeds in a pasture. The theory is that some patients may have an inborn warning system which makes them reluctant to take substances which could, if tak-en in non-medicinal doses,

cause damage.

Doctors' orders may be a good excuse for leaving party for an early night of turning down the second helping of pudding, but it is a phrase which summons up an image of the worst type of doctor-patient relationship.

My father, who epitomised the Edwardian doctor-patient countries the Edwardian doctor-patient countries.

tor, was never able to come to terms with the approach of younger colleagues who treated their patients as if they were personal property, rather as farmers might think of their milk quota.

doctor, in his view, A was there to gardent advice. The patient was at liberty to accept or ignore it. If the patientswant opinion, or even to change their doctor. they are fully justified in doing so, and this should be accepted without ill will. Likewise, the doctor has every right to suggest to patients that they would be happier, and better served. by going elsewhere.

The successful doctorpatient relationship existed in the past when both could sit down together and dis-cuss the problems, the remedies, or the lack of them, the side-effects of treatment and the likely outcome of

It is interesting that nearly 100 years after my father qualified, the expert panel gathered together by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society has produced a report with the problems of compliance which would incorporate the approach of Dr Finlay or Dr Cameron, or my father in Norfolk.

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EVERYONE has experienced agonising pain and colour changes in the hands and feet if they are badly chilled in cold

Patients with Raynaud's Phenomenon are particularly liable to suffer these colour changes. They need not always be brought about by extreme cold, although they are worse in these conditions.

With Raynaud's Phenomenon the fingers - only rarely are the thumbs affected - are painful and undergo either biphasic or triphasic colour changes. They may go from livid blue to

Red, white and blue in the cold

a bright red, and in patients suffering the triphasic changes the colour starts as a deathly pallor before changing to blue and then red.

Raynaud's Phenomenon, when it is not precipitated by cold, may be associated with many other trigger factors, includ-ing smoking, high blood pressure, thyroid problems and scleroderma and a host of other troubles. The syndrome is found more commonly in women than in

The *British Medical Journal* has recently reported that Raynaud's Phenomenon can also affect the nipples of pregnant women.

ine d

The agony some pregnant women suffer in their breasts in cold weather has often been described, but nobody had noticed previously that the nipples went through the same colour patterns, both biphasic or triphasic, as did the unfortu-

Old hands given new life

OLD MASTERS were particularly good at painting hands. Many a possible family treasure has been dismissed as a copy after an expert has seen it and explained that the hands were just not good enough". The veins on the hands of the aged were so beautifully painted that they not only added to the impact of the picture but were a clear guide to the sitter's age.

People's ages are as much marked by their hands as they are by their necks or hair. What is moving in an Old Master is depressing to an actress, television presenter or hostess, who have no desire to look frail and elderly, but want to appear still dynamic,

young and sexually appealing. Bags under the eyes and chicken skin around the neck can be removed, but hitherto the veins of the hands have been a giveaway, and many patients have even taken to wearing gloves to hide them. Two London surgeons, Stanley Rivlin, who operated on Baroness Thatcher's varicose veins, and his colleague Paul Baskerville have now devised



Albrecht Dürer's Hands

an operation, cosmetic phlebectomy, which rids women of any hand veins that might betray their seniority.

Small, nearly invisible incisions are made in the back of the hand -- the incisions are so small that no stitches are needed. Through these incisions the veins are hooked out. The patient is admitted for one night, bandages are worn for 24 hours, the bruises are all gone within a week and the patient can thereafter hold her hands up anywhere.

Sperm counts and fertility

ALTHOUGH there seems to be an obsession at present with sperm counts as an indication of man's diminishing masculinity, there are still frequent questions about how true a measure they are of the fertility of a population.

Further doubts on the relevance of an individual sperm count have been cast by a recent survey, which showed wide variations in the count from day to day, and even depended on which laboratory was involved. So before pressed about his fertility, and makes any decision about it, he should undergo tests.

The Journal of Urology has published a study which shows that, despite present doubts, there is a real associ ation between the average sperm count in a communit and its birthrate. In a ver large survey, urologists i Minnesota have compare sperm counts to birthra there since 1971.

When the average sper count rises, so does the birt rate. The link between a individual's single sperr count and his fertility may b questionable, but if the coun for the population as a whole is estimated it is highly

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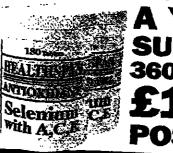
is being given the press it deserves!

American Medical Association have both publi astonishing pieces of research in the last two me Their results indicate that Selenium is cardio-prote acer preventing and can beip delay agel

However, as Dr Larry Clarke from the Arizona Cancer Centre recently pointed out, "Selenium is different from most other nutrients in that you can't be sure how much is in your diet it varies hugely in foodstuffs."

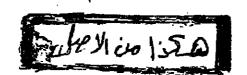
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The McAlpine memoirs: Day Four - spending Christmas with Margaret Thatcher

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The interior of the Great Hall at Chequers where a log fire blazed

he Christmas of 1983 I spent, as usual, with the Thatchers at Chequers. Romilly and I would

arrive at about 11 on Christmas

Day, after calling in to see my parents at

their home near Henley-on-Thames. The

Christmas Day lunch party was usually composed of the Thatchers, Mark and Carol, and Denis's sister, known as Auntie Joy, a delightfully down-to-earth

Romilly and I were house guests and a

variety of other people came to different

Christmas lunches over the nine years

that we stayed at Chequers. Regular

attendees were Tim and Virginia Bell,

Ronnie Miller, Sir Jack and Lady Page,

along with other people who were down on their luck or lived near by. Gordon

Reece was often there on Christmas Day.

Lunch went well as it always did, for

Margaret Thatcher had a talent for

making her guests feel at home. A great

log fire blazed in the Great Hall, a giant

Christmas tree filled one part of it with its

long drooping branches. Under them

'The Prime Minister immediately set about sorting out the fridge'

CHRISTMAS AT CHEQUERS

Confessions of

THATCHER'S

BAGMAN



anthem played and we all stood to attention. The speech over, the Prime Minister announced a walk to the

Bothy, where the police who guard Chequers have their base. We carried with us Christmas cake and other refreshments. Some time was spent talking to the police, who had missed their Christmas guarding us. Then we set out for a brisk walk down the drive to wish the staff who lived in the cottages at the Churchill Gate happy Christmas. One year, the weather was unusually warm but it changed suddenly to a rather cold Christmas Day. Romilly was without a coat, so she asked to borrow one from Carol. Instead of lending her a coat of her own, Carol lent Romilly one of her There was always plenty to eat and The Prime Minister stood up and we all cupboard. We were about halfway down

was walking with Romilly a yard or two in Prime Minister said: "It's won-derful that you are wearing the coat the PM

wore to church this morning. You make a splendid decoy. It's a great help because we're having trouble with the security equipment today. It's not working properly."

Back at the house, tea is served and then

the guests headed for home. When all the guests had left, the staff were given the evening off. Romilly and I went to our room to change. We always occupied a suite on the first floor of Chequers, a large bedroom comfortably furnished and a smaller one adjoining it. Both rooms had their own bathrooms. The point of this layout was that in the days of male Prime Ministers, who liked to stay up all night, plotting, the male Cabinet member could return to his room without disturbing his

wife. I remember Carla Thorneycroft, a frequent visitor to Chequers in Churchill's day, telling me that she always knew when Peter came to bed next door by the smell of cigar smoke.

inner on Christmas night was a simple affair; usually the six or so of us staying in the house sat at a round table in a bay window of the dining-room. A buffet was laid out: smoked salmon, cold turkey, cold beef, salads, fruit and Christmas cake. One year, there was a large tin of caviare. Margaret Thatcher decided that this halfeaten tin should be put away in the fridge, so Romilly and the Prime Minister set out for the kitchens. After some trouble fumbling around in the dark, they finally found the way to the kitchen. The fridge was on an industrial scale. Inside were half-eaten chickens and turkeys, mince pies and whole piles of fresh food. "This will not do," said the Prime Minister, who immediately set about sorting out the fridge and covering plates of food with the surprise the next day when the staff

returned and found this transformation of

the inside of the fridge. Boxing Day lunch was usually a more formal affair. I would spend the morning in the library, which for me was bliss: the collection of memorabilia at Chequers is wonderful. Lunch on Boxing Day was usually a buffet affair served on round tables seating eight or ten people, set up in the Great Hall. The guests were a mixture of politicians and industrialists.

Often they grumbled at being asked to leave their own houses on Boxing Day, but they came anyway. There are in London a group of people who flit around power as honeybees around lavender, collecting a little more power for themselves at each encounter. There is no room for either sentiment or principle in the lives of the overly ambitious. I felt certain that there would have been a telephone call to Downing Street if an invitation to any of them was delayed in the post.

◆ Extract from Once A Jolly Bagman by Alistair McAlpine (PAlistair McAlpine, 1997), published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson on March 13, at £20. Times readers can buy Once A Jolly man: Memoirs of Alistair McAlpine fo E16 (a saving of £4) by calling The Times Bookshop, 0990 134459



Romilly and I always occupied a suite on the first floor of Chequers

The day I became an IRA target

ous in seeing that you ate and drank it. Denis was the most genial of hosts and

there was a party spirit about the place.

After a few drinks, it was into lunch.

usually melon followed by turkey. A giant

bird, the gift of the Smithfield traders, it

was carried in by a chef, who then posed

with the bird and the other staff for

photographs. After that the Christmas

pudding, a flaming ball topped with holly,

which was carried hurriedly around the

table. The wines were good and the food

well cooked. Mince pies, brandy butter.

Stilton - all were in abundance. Crackers

were pulled, but the Prime Minister never

put on a funny hat. Photographs were

Then Jack Page rose to read his poem, a poem that had been specially written for

the occasion. At this point, coffee was

served and the Prime Minister began to

fidget, looking at her watch and moving

uneasily in her chair. Jack Page's poems

were in fact sagas that ran and ran. The

danger approached of a collision between

the words of the Queen due on television at 30m and the tail end of the Page poem.

drink and Margaret Thatcher was assidu- hurried to the White Study to watch the the drive at a very exposed spot, when the

taken by many of those present

BY May 1990, I had left my home at West Green in Hampshire. I had for some vears been a target of the TRA and my house was vulnerable to attack. Some instinct encouraged me to move. I also moved my London residence. A week or so later in my new London apartment, I woke, as usual, just before 6am. I switched on the television and as I began to increase the volume, a house ruined by a bomb blast came on the screen. Romilly, sitting in bed beside me, said: "That's West Green". So it was. Our last home had been blown apart by an IRA bomb.

It was an incredibly strange feeling, sitting there looking at a ruined house where, had we not left, we would have died. The telephone rang. It was the Prime Minister. She had also just seen the 6am news.





Margaret and Denis Thatcher with Skye McAlpine

Margaret Thatcher had

stayed only four months

before. That room was next

to Skye's bedroom. Next the

police called. "Do not move.

Do not touch anything in the

apartment." they said. In

minutes, they arrived with

She was very kind about the whole business. I am compelled to write, however, that I did not feel too badly about the house for I and my family were still alive.

The bomb had exploded under the window where

said: "It is a shame that the IRA, these days, are going around blowing up beautiful old houses. Margaret Thatcher had

visited West Green several times, on the first occasion when our daughter Skye was very small. Skye took Margaret Thatcher by the hand and led her into the garden to play hide and seek. When noticed that the Prime Minister was not around, I set out to look for her. Nobody seemed to know where she was, I found Mrs Thatcher in the garden, hiding behind hedges as Skye searched for her. Mrs Thatcher is naturally good with small children. freating them like miniature adults. which is what small children really enjoy.

dogs and equipment. Our

apartment was thoroughly

searched. Soon the press

began to ring me. I simply

MICHAEL HESELTINE

MICHAEL HESELTINE and different from me, he is a his wife Anne visited us shortly after he walked out of Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet. I have always liked Michael personally, despite the fact that I do not agree with a single political idea that he has

ever produced. I first met him, then one of Ted Heath's ministers, in 1973 at a dinner party. He regaled the assembled company with his views on the economy. Even then, it struck me that he was a man who felt that he could run everyone else's busi-

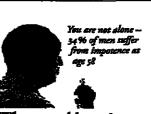
ness far better than they could. Years later I observed him as a Cabinet minister. Given the chance to run a ministry, and faced with making choices, he was far from decisive. He is so maker of sets, a checklist collector, a checklist politician. For myself, if I find a thing of beauty, I want more of that same thing. I am not remotely interested in making sets that include the boring and the banal just because they happen to be part of that set. Nor am I inclined to avoid people who just happen to have views

that contradict my own. I have not seen much of him since that time. In time he drove Margaret Thatcher from office. I bear him no malice for what he did, politics is a hard game and Heseltine was Thatcher's enemy. It was the treachery of those who failed to support her friends

that brought her down.

TOMORROW

McAlpine on McAlpine: "My education at Stowe was a disaster"



What my older, wiser brother said about "IMPOTENCE"

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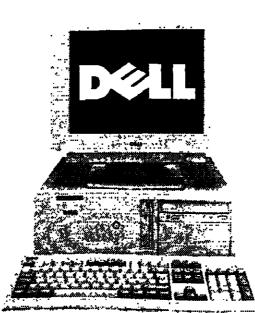
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It's time to pension off the State

David Willetts hails the Lilley

pension reforms as the greatest

advance since Lloyd George

The concept of retirement was invented just over a century ago. It was followed by the first serious investigations of the case for a state retirement pension. The argument was that working men would not be able to save enough during their lives to keep them in their retirement. so the State should step in to run a pension scheme. The great economist Alfred Mar-shall gave evidence to the Royal Commission on the Aged Poor in 1893, and argued that it would be wrong to introduce any schemes that did "not contain in themselves the seeds for their own disappearance . . . I should not like any institution started that did not contain in itself the causes which would make it shrivel up, as the causes of poverty shrivelled up." He looked forward to a time when people would be earning so much that it would be possible to expect them to save during their working lives for their

own retirement. Now we are reaching that happy situation, with people on average earning enough to be able to save for their retirement. But ironically, we have been stalled by the inertia of the old system. The

working population has been paying so much through the State's pay-as-yougo system to current pensioners that it has been difficult to see how they could be expected to save for themselves on top. We appeared to be at an impasse. Yesterday, Peter Lilley showed that he has cracked that problem. He has

put forward one of

be protected.

initiatives since 1979. The next generation of people joining the workforce. in the new millennium, will get a rebate of their national insurance contributions of E9 a week plus 5 per cent of their earnings to pay into their own pension savings. They will still have to pay some contributions to finance the pensions of the generation above them, which is entitled to a state pension that must obviously

The net cost of the rebates is an extra £160 million, cumulating every year to a maximum eventual cost of around 57 billion a year - rather smaller than the rebates for people who contracted out of Serps in the mid 1980s. Peter Lilley has held the total costs down by an ingenious shift in the tax rules, so that the next generation's pension contributions will be paid out of taxed income but received tax free. This balances out for the individual over a lifetime, but helps the Government with its cashflow during the changeover to the new system. And the 1995 Pensions Act will yield savings of £13 billion a year, so Peter Lillev has already created scope for financing the transition.

That is the technical brilliance of what Peter Lilley is proposing. But what is the big picture? The next generation is

MUTINY has been narrowly

averted down at Sandhurst, where

the officers have seen off some

impertinent behaviour from the

television programme Soldier.

Soldier. Producers from the pro-

gramme had asked to film at the

110th Royal Military Academy and

Staff College point-to-point. This

annual event at Tweseldown race-

course in Hampshire, where

young officers go clattering over

the fences, is one of the highlights

When news reached the barrack-

room a rearguard was instantly formed. "This is a horse-racing

event not a film set," says one involved with the event. "We were

certainly not going to have them stopping the horses every five

minutes so they could waltz on and

do their thespian things. And there

was absolutely no way anyone was going to agree to be herded about like extras by some pushy film

It is a mess joke whenever

actors from the programme come

to scramble over the Sandhurst

assault course. All this despite the

fact that the Army's official line is

to support the show for its recruit-

director with a megaphone."

of the Sandhurst calendar.

being offered genuine security through a real fund for its pensions. A recent MORI survey showed that more young people expect to win the National Lottery jackpot than believe they will ever get an adequate state pension.

Instead of their pension ultimately resting on the State's power to tax, they will now have one secured on genuine private funds. Because all young people will be in such schemes, private pen-sion providers will be able to hold down their administra-tive and advertising costs. which have brought such bad publicity to personal pensions. The Social Security Department will be able to focus on what is rightly its responsibility - guaranteeing the basic pension and helping the poorest pensioners.

Peter Lilley has cautiously assumed that his proposals will have no impact on the overall performance of the economy. He is dutifully following the conventional economic doctrine that capital markets are global so there need be no correlation between the amounts a nation saves and its volume of investment. The theory is that a lowsaving country with a host of

investment opportunities will simply Peter borrow to make up the difference. But Lilley's in practice there does seem to be a proposal is strong correlation one of the between savings and investment. So strongest if we save more we may well invest policy more. If our growth rate increases even initiatives by just one twentisince 1979 eth of a percentage point, this will more

than cover the costs

the boldest and best policy of the rebates at their peak. This opens up for working families not Harriet Harman's "chilling prospect", but the hope of pensions that grow along with the economy. Labour, by contrast, advocates industry-wide the Australian model. But how can civil servants define an "industry" for the purpose of collecting a pension in the year 2040? The modern global economy makes the idea absurd. And also, as with Frank Field's proposals for a stakeholder second pension, trade union bosses and employers are expected to run the schemes through some sort of corporatist structure. It is re-

> ership, direct and clear. Back in 1911, Lloyd George fought an election when he brought in his national insurance scheme with the slogan of 'nine pence for four pence". Now Peter Lilley is offering £175 a week for £9 plus 5 per cent. It is a popular cry, and unlike Lloyd George's offer it is securely based on genuine saving. It takes us yet further towards the Tory vision of a property-owning democracy, and it deserves to succeed.

markably backward-looking.

Nothing beats personal own-

The author is chairman of the Conservative Research Department and MP for

tiation, military decorum is safe.

The production team will be

.arriving early and will film with

two fixed carneras. There will be no

disruptions," says a racecourse

Surprise at the BBC as it reveals

the three stars of its general election line-up: John Humphrys,

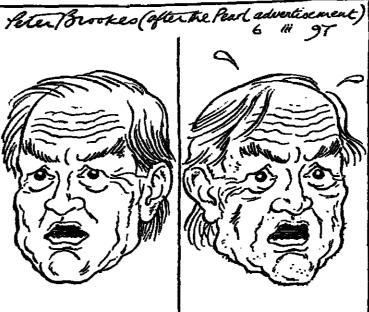
Jeremy Paxman and (drums roll)

Acting officers









A long way togo

"I'm not too fussed about pensions." Some way off

"Er... perhaps I should think about pensions.

Getting close

"I wish I'd thought earlier about pensions." The Election

"Too Late!"

Stand up for bastards

avid Evans is an offensive comedian; he thinks he is being frank and manly when he is merely ex-pressing the ideas of a bully in the language of a clown. He represents a sweaty testosterone culture which rejects and perhaps fears women; such a culture is still quite strong in the world of professional athletes and refuse contractors in which he failed to grow up. It is an unpleasant, one-sided and ungenerous culture which does not deserve to be represented in Parliament. He has nothing to say which would make Britain a better place. and much to say which would make it a worse one. He is against women, blacks and gays; they have every right to resent his prejudices, and to reject him.
Yet, infuriatingly, he has raised a

real and serious issue. The form of his criticism of Melanie Johnson, the prospective Labour candidate for his Welywn Hatfield seat, was very unpleasant. But the underlying question is one of public concern. Miss Johnson has apparently been in a stable partnership for 18 years, and has had three children. She has not married the father of these children. She has had a useful public career as a magistrate, a manager in the National Health Service and a schools inspector. She was chosen for the constituency from a woman-only shortlist.

David Evans coarsely expressed the fact that she had three children outside marriage, and said she had never had a proper job. Her reply is: "I'm standing for election, not my children. I'm horrified that he could stoop so low as to abuse my three children with this foul word. How many parents will agree with David Evans that inspecting schools and raising standards is not a

She has two valid points; David Evans should not have used abusive language about her children. If being a schools inspector was a proper job for Matthew Arnold, it is a proper job for her. However, that does not answer a third point. Her children are certainly in no way to blame for being born outside marriage, but is she in any way to blame for not getting married to the partner of 18 years, the father of her children? Has she disadvantaged her children? There are a number of possible answers to this. One is that it is a personal matter and that her possible The weakening of marriage is only part

of a general weakening of the sense

of responsibility towards children

future constituents have no valid interest in it. Another is that cohabitation is as good as marriage for the welfare of the children. Yet another would be that there are some private circumstances which would have made marriage impossible, though it is hard to think what they now might be.

In local terms, a Member of Parliament is a role model. David Evans himself is a role model, if a disgraceful one. Miss Johnson is already an establishment figure, a schools inspector and a magistrate, and she is putting herself forward to for election

as an MP. She has apparently decided to have her family outside marriage. She may only be adding a single pebble to the heap of stones which marks modern marriage as unnecessary, but

she has added her pebble. She is not only responsible to herself, to her partner and to her children; she is also unavoidably responsible to the public. If she wanted a purely private life, then, to put it bluntly, she should have stayed in private life. Her private decisions have public consequences, and are therefore a proper subject for public discussion.

The implication of a preference for cohabitation over marriage is that there is an unwillingness of one partner or the other, or both, to commit to permanence, even when they have hildren. A far higher proportion of such partnerships break up even option of breaking up is consciously preserved in such partnerships, howthere must always be a certain insecurity. Although some good partnerships will undoubtedly provide a some less good marriages, the general rule is that partnerships are less secure than marriages while they last

he's far too angular."

break-up of partnerships or marriages are damaging to the lives of the children; they become more likely to underperform at school, to fall ill. to come before the criminal courts, to fail to make stable relationships in their own adult lives, to become alcoholics, even to die prematurely. These are indeed only differences in statisti-cal probability, but it is such statistical probabilities which shape society. There is almost no social problem which is not aggravated by the high incidence of break-up and divorce. and partnerships are more likely to break up than marriages. Miss

Johnson may be asserting her right to lead her own life if she chooses, but the more general statement that she seems to be making is that marriage is not essential for family life: that is an anti-

social statement. To criticise her arrangements should never be turned into a criticism of her children, but without further explanation. it can be a legitimate criticism of her.

Church of England.

Everyone will feel personal sympathy for his position. His private happiness is an important consideration: no doubt if he were counselling a member of his congregation he would do so with compassion and understanding. But he is not just a member of the congregation. He is a bishop of a Church which is still fighting a rearguard action against

life. For him to marry in an entirely secular procedure is to set an example that such marriages are acceptable and that divorce is acceptable. A generation ago it would be unthinkable for a bishop to go through what is, in the eyes of his Church, an inva-lid marriage. We can equally feel per-sonal sympathy with the Prince of Wales, but if he were, as a divorced man, to marry a divorced woman, that too would make him to that extent a negative role model for society.

We live in an age which has tried

excessively hard to eliminate absolute rules. The absolute rule about marriage is that it is a lifelong and unlimited commitment. When both parties to a marriage perceive it in that way, it is much easier for them to maintain it. If you know that marriage is absolute, temporary problems are likely to remain just that. This is the great inferiority of nonmarried partnerships, and it is the great weakness of divorce. If the door is always ajar, there will always be the possibility that one or other partner will leave through it: each temporary problem requires another permanent decision and sooner or later the temporary difference is as likely than not to be seen as irreconcilable. A loose structure of marriage, which has been made looser by this Government's "no fault" divorce laws, or mere cohabitation is much weaker than real marriage, and therefore much more difficult for the partners to

It is not, however, the partners who usually suffer most when marriages break up, but the children. Their suffering can last a lifetime. The modern weakening of marriage is only a part of a general weakening of the sense of responsibility towards children; that does so much harm and causes so much pain that it is hard to forgive. Apparently Kevin Costner has said that he will never feel like a real father to the person who is called his "love child". Has he any idea of what that remark may do to the life for which he is inescapably and permanently responsible? If you are not prepared to be a real father. you should not father the child; if you are not prepared to be a real mother. you should not become pregnant. Sex is an act with consequences that can stretch 80 or more years into the future: permanent marriage has the great advantage of being able to contain that unique responsibility. Nothing else can.

Labour's spring of discontent

Striking teachers

are a portent, says Magnus Linklater

like the expression "a cloud no bigger than a man's hand". It's I just enough to suggest that a raincoat would be advisable — and that is how I picture the fraternal delegates as they congregate in Inver-ness tomorrow for Labour's last party conference before the election. With a substantial lead in the polls, and the Wirral by-election to confirm it, the mood should be one of exhilaration and I dare say that will prevail. But when Tony Blair addresses the Scottish Conference in the afternoon. I doubt if Sheffield-style trium-phalism will be on the agenda.

Some strange things are happen ing, which carry warning signals for Labour beyond the Scottish border. The dust will barely have settled on a one-day teachers strike in Glasgow. which closed most of the city's 400 schools yesterday. Two more are planned later this month. In Edinburgh, strike action may disrupt the city council's budget meeting today. Throughout the country, up to 20,000 local government officers were expected to strike over planned job cuts. Remember, these are all Labourcontrolled councils, where the very phrase "compulsory redundancies" is heresy. The result is a springtime of discontent, which could well turn into a long summer of protest unless something is done to reverse the effect of massive cuts and council tax increases of up to 22 per cent.

4

And yet, what comfort will the delegates be offered in Inverness this weekend? Blaming the Government is one thing. Explaining what Labour will do about it is quite another. There are uncomfortable signs that the public is losing confidence in the party's ability on both scores. An opinion poll earlier this week in the Herald showed Labour down by a fairly serious six points, the second successive drop it has recorded. The paper ascribed the fall-off almost entirely to Gordon Brown's bleak announcement that there would be no increase in income tax levels and no rise in public spending under Labour: what may be good news in Middle England has gone down less well North of the border.

At the same time, the line that this is all the Government's fault is failing to convince the public. The same poll showed that voters hold both sides local and national — almost equally responsible for the crisis. And they no longer believe that a Labour government would provide any more in the way of funding. The electorate is becoming very well informed and very cynical - a dangerous combination.

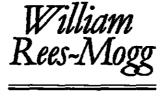
t the same time, the expectation of better things ahead Tremains enormously high. Education shows up as the top priority for reform, backed by evidence on the streets. The turnout of demonstrators yesterday was far greater than anyone had anticipated. and it included parents as well as school staff. Sympathy for the teachers has not dried up, as it seems to have done in England; even the leader of Glasgow council, whose cuts are at the centre of the protest, said he thinks the teachers have a case. At party level, the emphasis remains determinedly old Labour: to judge from the glossy brochure for this week's conference, there is little to suggest that new Labour's lessons of thrift and discipline have made significant progress. The trade union advertisements speak of "defending public services . . . fighting for a socialist agenda . . . full employment and dignity at work . . . a national minimum wage to tackle poverty and inequality".

So Labour's attempts to reassure its party faithful, while at the same time insisting that no new money is available, begin to sound like a gagged man trying to make himself understood. Frantic head signals and a sort of strangled mouning is all that emerges. George Robertson, the Shadow Secretary of State, indicates that there will be "different spending pri-orities", that choices "will begin to transform local government services". There will be smaller classes in primary schools, but these, it is said, will be paid for by abolishing the Assisted Places Scheme (which, in its short life, has become surprisingly popular) and scrapping the nursery voucher scheme. There is no mention of the reality ahead: that schools in Glasgow will have to be closed because there are simply too many of them: that compulsory redundancies are inevitable whoever wins the election; that no amount of juggling the budget can meet the shortfalls that almost every council in Scotland faces.

From behind the gag come sounds that will not please Mr Blair: nondomestic rates, it is said, could be raised, placing the burden on business rather than the private citizen. Spending limits could be eased in the short term to allow the effects of local government reorganisation to settle. There are ways of reassessing spending priorities which would ease the constraints that councils face. It's all mulfiled, hard to make out, and even harder to define without falling out of line with party headquarters. Above

all, it is unconvincing to the voter.

None of this, of course, will seriously threaten Labour's prospects on May I. Its majority has been chipped, not seriously damaged. But is worrying nevertheless. That cloud looks a bit bigger already.



than of modern marriages. The ever loving and stable they may be: because that option has been retained better home for the children than and are less likely to last.

There is overwhelming evidence from research that the effects of the

certainly isn't that. What's more,

Happily, the choice of Derek

Jacobi to play Francis Bacon wins

Farson's approval: "Jacobi is

spot on for the role. He bears a

remarkable resemblance to the

· Late at night in the Lords the

other day, the Bishop of Ripon sug-

gested a change to the name of the

Oualifications and National Cur-

riculum Authority. He wanted the

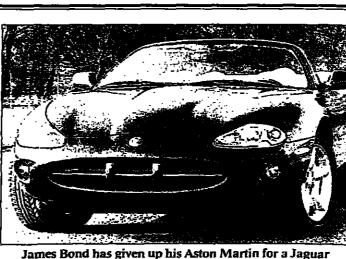
"National" dropped for technical reasons. Lord Morris of Castle-

morris, Labour's education man, observed: "It will now be called

Quacker rather than Quanker."

he is of course not the only role model to be reluctant to accept the full social responsibility of the role. The Archbishop of Canterbury is an excellent role model himself, and recognises his own responsibility, but he seems to be remarkably relaxed about the responsibility of bishops. The Bishop of Birmingham, Mark Santer, is a widower; he has decided to marry a divorced person in a register office because such a marriage would not be accepted in the

divorce and the destruction of family



James Bond has given up his Aston Martin for a Jaguar

Sybil Ruscoe of Radio 5 Live. As one within the BBC puts it: "It's as if the Tories came out and said 'We've got John Major, Michael Heseltine and Dame Elaine Kellet-Bowman."

Fat chance

NO RISK of typecasting for the forthcoming film of Gilded Gutter Life, the memoirs of the art historian Daniel Farson. Decades of inspecting the bottoms of wine glasses around Soho have taken their toll on Farson's jowls. Yet the rather more chiselled Rupert Everett. star of Another Country and The Comfort of Strangers, has

been asked to play him. "I was very impressed by Everett." Farson tells me, "but he was not quite me. I was very naïve when I first hit Soho and Rupert

Go Getty A HIGHLY secretive 70th birthday party for the philanthropist John Paul Getty takes place tonight. He

has chosen to spend £45,000 celebrating at the relaunched Café de Paris in Leicester Square, a lowrent sort of place full of dark velvet and shady customers.

The theme will be "Introduction

to Summer" and the 300 diners will start with foie gras with avocado and French-bean salad, sea bass and lobster en croute, and to round off. something called Caribbean chocolate duo. By way of a surprise, the Café de Paris in-

tends to present Getty with honorary membership, which will save him £300.

XK8 007 FOR the next series of James Bond

books, 007 will be driving a Jag-uar. After the sacrilege of the BMW driven by Pierce Brosnan in Goldeneye, Raymond Benson, who has been commissioned by the Ian Fleming estate to write the next few Bond books, has been in talks with Jaguar about designing the

He wants something to rival the classic Aston Martin DB5 for kneetrembling glamour, yet with a

"The XKS is top of the list at the moment," says Jaguar, which is now owned by the American Ford company. "We are helping Benson with the design and ideas for all the gizmos and gimmicks. We have suggested how the car might realistically be modified to include ex-ploding hubcaps and other bits and pieces.

"I've decided to settle your

dismissal out of court



THE PENSION PLAN

Where Lilley has marched, Labour should follow

Peter Lilley's pension proposals have sion funds fail them. This should eventually brought a gust of fresh air into the stale, smoky atmosphere of pre-election politics. These reforms are a radical solution to a huge problem; they show a willingness to think far beyond this Parliament or the next; and they prove Britain to be an innovator ahead of its European partners. In sum, they are an example of good government.

Whether they prove to be good politics is another matter. To present such a complicated and far-reaching plan just weeks before a general election is certainly curious timing. This is no little nugget to tempt the voters; indeed it will cost the taxpayer money for some 80-odd years. But it is a genuine attempt to grapple with the biggest public spending problem that governments of all shades will face over the next century.

Britain has nothing like the "pensions timebomb" that some other European countries face. Because this country's demographics are more favourable, and the pension age for women is to be raised, we shall have a healthier ratio of workers to pensioners. Because the basic state pension has been linked to prices rather than earnings, it costs the state less. And because the British have saved more for their retirement in occupational and private pensions than the rest of the EU put together, the burden on the taxpayer will be smaller. But, all that said, pensions are still set to take up an ever bigger share of the already-growing social security budget unless something is done.

The rationale for paying every citizen the same pension is also starting to fade. When the state pension was invented, life expectancy at retirement was only a few years. There were few occupational or private alternatives; so old age was closely correlated with poverty. Now that second pensions are so much more common, the old are much less likely to be poor. But the cost of paying everybody a pension for the many more years before they die will become prohibitive.

The effect of Mr Lilley's reforms is that, having given people a rebate throughout their working lives, the state will step in only to provide a safety net for those whose pencut £40 billion a year from the projected £50 billion which the current system would otherwise cost - but not until 2060. Meanwhile, the taxpayer will have to pay twice over, providing pensions to everyone who retires before then, and paying rebates to the people in the new scheme. The net cost of this will peak at £7 billion a year.

It is this cost that has always deterred pension reformers in the past. And it is on the basis of this cost that Labour is opposing the proposals. Mr Lilley has managed to make it smaller than it would otherwise have been, by taxing pension contributions during people's working lives in return for not taxing their pensions when they retire. But it is still a burden that this working generation will have to swallow.

Many will consider it a price worth paying. For the new scheme has attractions beyond its eventual large savings to the Exchequer. It will allow people to own the whole of their pensions, instead of trusting some future government to abide by its predecessors' promises. Everyone will have a visible stake in the economy - and their pensions should rise in line with economic growth instead of merely with inflation. Unless the economy collapses or pension funds are run by crooks, most people will be much better off in retirement. And the

Government's guarantee limits the risk. If this scheme is to work, however, private pension providers must be tightly regulated. Otherwise they will be tempted either to overcharge customers or to opt for high-risk investments in the knowledge that the state will step in if they go wrong. Consumer confidence in the sector is currently low. It will have to be revived by tougher supervision.

Despite Labour's promises to be more radical than the Tories on welfare reform, the party's reaction shows it to be less forward-thinking. It is perhaps understandable that an Opposition used to planning ahead only until the election and a bit beyond should find it hard to appreciate the value of savings in 2060. But all welfare reform is painfully long-term. If Labour wants to be radical, it needs to adjust its sights.

SWISS ATONEMENT

Welcome words in the best of traditions

Rarely does one look for statesmanship from Switzerland or a visionary speech that ranks with the great declarations of European politics. But the address yesterday by President Koller to the Federal Assembly, confronting Switzerland's wartime role, treatment of Jewish asylum-seekers and dubious financial dealings with Nazi Germany, is a profoundly moving statement. It can be compared to the cathartic acknowledgement by Richard von Weizsäcker, the former German President. of German wartime knowledge of the Holocaust. Both men have faced the darkest periods of their country's history and redeemed some of their nation's honour.

Mr Koller noted that in the past few months the Swiss have been accused of dishonesty, stubbornness and arrogance; that the country's reputation has been tainted by the global impression that it enriched itself from the war, and that this severe criticism went to the foundation of Switzerland's economic values and its perception of ethics and morality. His countrymen, he noted, had reacted with outrage and bewilderment: surely they were less guilty than those who organised the deportations or gave vent to anti-Semitism? Others were questioning the value of Switzerland's wartime strategy. Was the country now paying neutrality's price?

He acknowledged that Switzerland's maladroit response had only made matters worse. Instead, he insisted, the past should he approached in a spirit of humility. Switzerland's reactions had been slow and defensive, giving the impression that only under pressure was it willing to deal com-

prehensively with its past. His words go to the nub of the antagonism Switzerland has evoked among Jewish groups; they also contrast starkly with the stance taken by his hapless predecessor, Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, who accused world Jewry of blackmail.

The sum now being offered to aid victims of human rights abuses, catastrophes and the Holocaust is enormous: if adopted by parliament, the gold reserves set aside will amount to some seven billion Swiss francs, generating several hundred million francs a year for needy recipients. This would be an undertaking as munificent and high-minded as that other monument to Swiss humanitarian commitment, the International Committee of the Red Cross. Mr Koller linked the gesture to Swiss gratitude for having been spared two World Wars. In truth, it is also an attempt to pre-empt the likely findings of the committee of historians that Switzerland acted disgracefully in turning away Jews and profiting from their persecution.

The importance of this atonement lies not in the sum offered, generous though it is. It is in the recognition that an historic wrong must be acknowledged. The behaviour of nations is remembered long after their guilty citizens die. The implications of Mr Koller's proposal, however, are even more farreaching. They bring home to the Swiss, for the first time in centuries, that the Alps do not shield them from world opinion nor is neutral isolationism always the best policy. Little by little, Switzerland is reaching out to the world beyond its borders. The Government's initiative will do much to broaden the narrow-mindedness that, in recent months. has served the Swiss so ill.

THE DREAM TERRINE

If you can't stand the meat, get out of the laboratory

Is it a quail? Is it a chicken? No, it's a quicken! Neuroscientists in California have crossed a quail with a chicken. However, their purpose is not to create a lumbering low-flying game bird as first a bigger target, and then a more substantial pot-roast. The experiment has lessons, we are told, about how the brain develops.

But such genetic breakthroughs also have lessons about how the food industry develops. Many incurious children already imagine that fish have fingers and that chickens are hatched already frozen in pieces with a packet of Kiev sauce. But new mutations will enable agribusiness to take even more of the toiling out of boiling. So a modern Mrs Beeton would have to recommend: "First breed your game pie." This is already happening in the continental sausage industry, where the mule makes its hybrid contribution to salami presumed to be plain horsemeat. Mutations will, however, have to leap a great deal higher before genetic science can contribute to the Belgian pate

that is advertised as half cheval, half lapin. Such cross-cookery across the species is rare and usually sterile. The liger, offspring of a lion and a tigress, has been born only in zoos. So has the tigon, the cub of a tigress and a lion. Differences in behaviour and habitat make interpreeding of big cats in the

wild unlikely. And their offspring would be tricky to catch, and have too strong a flavour for all except the superstitious who follow the virile diet of "you are what you eat".

But before now free-range chickens have disappeared into the rhododendrons for a month, and reappeared with a clutch of chicks that look suspiciously like pheasants. Potatoes have already been crossed with tomatoes, more successfully than their pronunciations have been matched across the Atlantic. Scientists may yet breed the ingredients for yeal and ham pie on the hoof or trotter. And in the long run, the stir-fry's the limit. Sage and onion already grow together like a big toe and bunion. A Sole Cardinal hybrid could avoid unpleasantness in the fish kettle, if only lobsters mated more easily. Eventually, crossing the kingdoms as well as the species, fish and chips?

In this brave new cuisine, there will be initial misunderstandings. When Marilyn Monroe was married to Arthur Miller, his mother always made matzo ball soup. After the tenth time, Marilyn said: "Gee, Arthur. these matzo balls are pretty nice, but isn't there any other part of the matzo you can eat?" Man is the animal that cooks. And good cooking has been an art since the Stone Age. In the Clone Age it has also become a science at the crossing edge.

THE PARTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street. London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

made to an obvious consideration,

alongside which the West Lothian

Question is a red herring. I suppose

this neglect must be due to this coun-

devolved to regional or provincial par-

liaments or assemblies and which are

federal in that sense - the United

States, Australia, Germany are some examples — it will always be found

that a federal parliament exists in ad-

dition to, and in some respects super-

All historical experience suggests

that if a parliament is established for

Scotland and Wales and restored for

Ulster, it will be wise to establish a

parliament for England, and even

parliaments for English provinces if

unthinking regionalism continues to

spread, and to see that their compe-

tencies are carefully related to the

Kingdom. I would go so far as to say that unless this step is taken, devolu-

tion will inescapably lead to separa-

It may be feared that the introduc-

tion of two layers of MPs, national

and regional, would lead to an unwel-

come increase in the total number of

MPs. But such a federal structure,

properly designed, could be made to

Sir, Magnus Linklater is not quite cor-

rect in saying ("Scotsman on the make", February 21) that The Scots-

man "has worshipped at the altar of

devolution for the best part of 100 years". This has certainly been the

case since at least the Second World

War; but between the 1890s and early

1930s it vehemently opposed any form

legislature dominated by a coalition of

the temperance reformer, the dis-

affected crofter and the militant shop

In 1894 it described an Assembly as

the provincialisation of Scotland"

which would narrow Scottish inter-

ests and reduce Scottish rights over

British commercial policy. National-

ism was the irrational response of

those who lacked the wider vision.

Perhaps the paper has returned to

IAN LEVITT.
University of Central Lancashire,

Department of Historical and

political devolution, fearing a

yield the opposite result.

From Professor Ian Levitt

St John's College, Cambridge.

Yours sincerely.

February 28.

that view?

Yours sincerely.

Critical Studies.

antee really be?

February

Preston PRI 2HE.

F. H. HINSLÉY,

tism.

powers of a parliament for the United

ior to, the devolved parliaments.

In single states in which powers are

try's long history as a unitary state.

Devolution for Scotland and the integrity of the UK

From the Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland

Sir, Matthew Parris ("The West Lothian nightmare", February 28; see also letters, February 15, 21, 25, 28) paints a fearsome scenario based on an automatic tension between a devolved Parliament in Edinburgh and the Parliament at Westminster. I'd like him to consider two alternative futuristic articles based on more realistic scenar-

The first is the return at the next election of the Conservative Party with an even more diminished presence in Scotland. At the moment they rule Scotland and take every single legislative, administrative and executive decision with 15 per cent in the polls and only ten of the 72 seats.

In a fifth Tory term we can expect no constitutional change and the views of the vast majority of the Scottish electors to be again ignored and defied. The sole offer is the farcical travelling Scottish Grand Committee held up by the Director of the Conservative Political Centre, Alistair B. Cooke (letter, February 28), as the Tory answer to devolution.

Does anyone imagine that this would be a formula for stability in the United Kingdom? What conclusion will the Scottish people take from the denial of any devolution for them when the Prime Minister himself continues to offer legislative devolution to Northern Ireland? Would not the tensions arising from this scenario be a more plausible, and more frightening, basis to fuel some Matthew Parris

nightmare for the integrity of the UK? The second scenario might be constructed on the fact that what Labour is offering is by far the favoured option of the Scottish people. It might note that the decision to go ahead with the project will be subject to a referendum to obtain the specific consent of the Scots to what is proposed.

It might also build into the speculation that since democratisation of the existing bureaucratic devolution in Scotland is what the people want, they will live with their own decision and its consequences. After all, the Scottish people have lived without revolution for the last 18 years as laws affecting only Scotland, like the poll tax, were made by an English Tory major-

The devolution proposals for Scotland are safe, sensible and thoughtthrough; they were the subject of detailed debate and agreement in a constitutional convention which included the Liberal Democrats, the Scottish churches, trade unions, elected councillors and the widest group of civic organisations ever before assembled in Scotland on this issue.

In contrast, the unbendi-

Sir. The most disturbing aspect of David Evans's sexist and racist dia-

tribe (reports, March 5) is the fact that

many of his constituents, subse-

quently interviewed by the media,

claimed that his comments represent-

If there is any truth in this we are in

MP's gaffe

ed vax populi.

dire trouble.

Yours faithfully,

MARTIN HASSECK.

macy for Cabinet office?

35 Buckingham Gate, SWI.

Politics of fear

From Mr Ronald Kellman

Yours sincerely.

the voters back.

victory! QED.

Yours faithfully

37 Larks Meade,

RONALD KELLMAN.

Earley, Reading, Berkshire.

March 5.

104 Holders Hill Road, NW4.

From Mr John B. Birchell Hughes

Sir, Surely, in echoing the Prime Min-

ister's own robust affections, Mr

David Evans. MP. was merely em-

phasising the Johnson family's legiti-

JOHN B. BIRCHELL HUGHES.

Sir, Peter Riddell suggests (March I)

that the Tories' only hope is to frighten

election when he said that the return

of a Labour government meant that a

Gestapo inter alia would descend

upon us. A terrifying thought at that

Election result? A Labour landslide

Churchill tried fright in the 1945

From Mr Martin Hasseck

sensitive "no-change" attitude of the Conservatives betrays the kind of arrogant contempt for reasonable change which is the real enemy of the unity of our country.

Yours sincerely, GEORGE ROBERTSON. Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland. House of Commons. March 2

From Professor Vernon Bogdanor

Sir, Of all the arguments against a Scottish Parliament, none can be more preposterous than Alistair Cooke's claim that the "expansion of the Scottish Grand Committee" is itself a form of devolution because "it can deal with all Scottish legislation" and "it can call all ministers (not just Scottish Office ministers) to account". That is just what it cannot do.

When, in November 1995, MPs asked whether the committee could block nursery vouchers in Scotland, Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, said No. since "the absolute Westminster veto over Scottish business re-mains" and "the Scottish Grand Committee is not a Scottish Parliament".

It is difficult to understand why our supposedly flexible constitution suddenly becomes inflexible when it is called upon to meet the claims of Scots, and perhaps others also, for greater autonomy. In Italy, five regions, including Sicily and Sardinia, enjoyed autonomy for 22 years before it was granted to other regions. In Spain, Catalonia and the Basque country gained autonomy before other regions. Yet no one proposed a West Sardinian Question or a West Catalonian Ouestion; nor were Spain

or Italy on the verge of break-up.

Home Rule in Greenland and the Faeroes allows them to remain outside the European Union, while Denmark remains a member state. Yet nothing is ever heard of a West Greenland Question; and nor is Denmark about to disintegrate.

Experience in Western Europe shows that Lord Jenkins of Hillhead (letter, February 25) is right, and that conciliating nations and regions with strong identities serves to contain separatism rather than stimulating it. If that is correct, then devolution will strengthen the United Kingdom, not weaken it.

Yours faithfully, VERNON BOGDANOR, Brasenose College, Oxford.

From Professor Emeritus Sir Harry Hinsley, FBA

Nato enlargement

From Sir Brian Barder

parents, failed to keep.

Sir, In the intensifying debate about

Sir, Sir Bryan Cartledge (letter, Feb-

ruary 26) argues persuasively for

Nato enlargement to embrace Poland.

Hungary and the Czech Republic as a

means of redeeming the debt of hon-our incurred by the West at Munich

and at Yalta lother letters, February

12. 17, March 3]. It is useful to be re-

minded of past promises that we in

the West, or our parents and grand-

When I served as a diplomat in Po-

land in the 1980s, before the Wall

came down, I sometimes had to re-

mind visiting parliamentarians and

others that nostalgic reminiscences

about Britain's declaration of war in

September 1939 in the cause of Polish

independence cut little ice with Poles

who had expected Britain and France

to come to their aid at that time but

had been cruelly disappointed. Our

pre-war defence guarantees to Austra-

guarantee to the Poles (and the Hungarians and the Czechs, and later perhaps others too) and then find that in the event we either could not, or would not, honour it, would compound rather than redeem the debt.

How credible would our Nato guar-

Would the United States, Britain, France and Germany really be prepared to risk war with a nuclear pow er in defence of Poland in a conflict with say, Belarus or Ukraine, or even Russia itself, over a border dispute which had escalated into military action? And are the evident risks to political stability and moderation in Russia of moving Nato's boundaries right up to those of the former Soviet Union really justified by such a questionable enterprise?

Creative diplomacy should be able to come up with a more convincing approach to mutual security in Europe, one that takes account of the situation of the late 1990s rather than that of 1949 for which Nato was designed.

proved similarly impossible to Yours sincerely, BRIAN BARDER Certainly it would help to right the (British Ambassador to Poland, Polish wrong if we were to extend the protection of the Nato guarantee now 1986-88: High Commissioner to to Poland - and prepared genuinely to honour it if and when necessary. Australia, 1991-94), 10 Melrose Road, SW18. But to give yet another well-meant February 27.

Full house

From Dr John H. Greensmith Sir, Really, Mr Harries-Harris (letter, March 1): 5.8 people turning up to watch Scunthorpe United play at

They wish! Yours faithfully. JOHN GREENSMITH. 36a North Street, Downend, Bristol. March 1.

Honourable mix-up From the Hon William Meston

Sir. If Lord Lloyd-Webber (report, February 27; letter, March 4) was styled Lord Lloyd Webber of Sunset Boulevard Avenue there would be no need for a hyphen.

Yours faithfully. WILLIAM MESTON, II The Green, Mistley, Manningtree, Essex. March 4.

Planning 'propriety'

From the President of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Sir. You report today that John Cummer believes local planning authority decisions on sites for social housing are being determined more by political and electoral considerations than by planning ones.

We realise that this view is held by some: indeed that is one of the reasons why the Nolan committee is looking at the planning system. However, we have no evidence that it is based on anything other than anecdotal comments and we would welcome the Secretary of State backing up his claims

with such evidence. Planning authorities, rather than heing reluctant to do their best to make such sites available, are in fact

even keener to help than John Gummer might wish. Hence local authorities are seeking an even lower threshold to the size of sites on which they can seek social housing units from commercial developers. If the Government's target of providing more than 60 per cent of new housing on re-used land is to be met, planning authorities will need to be encouraged to grant permission for housing, not accused f gerrymandering.

Mr Gummer has just published a new edition of Planning Policy Guidance Note 1, with a welcome new section entitled "Propriety". This makes

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046.

it clear that members of local planning authorities are elected to represent the interests of the whole community in planning matters, and that decisions must be based on receiving open and impartial professional advice. Councillors should have good reasons, based on land-use planning grounds, if they choose to refuse such advice.

The RTPI warmly welcomes that guidance and would be disappointed if Mr Gummer's reported comments to Nolan distract attention from the very real issues posed by the household-growth debate and the need for social housing.

Yours etc. TONY STRUTHERS. President. Royal Town Planning Institute, 26 Portland Place, WI. February 27.

Episcopal prayer for Labour victory

From the Reverend Michael Windridge

Sir, The Bishop of Worcester elect, Professor Peter Selby, whom you des-cribe (report, March I) as "an assistant bishop and top academic", has undoubted intellectual abilities, Sadly, he has also gained for the Church the highest honours in episcopal divisiveness. As you report. Prolessor Selby's published prayer for a Labour victory will add one further name to the succession of Anglican bishops who have elected to come out in public support of the Labour Party. By so doing, I believe they have risked compromising the authority of the special office into which they are ordained and consecrated.

By appropriating the authority of their ordained status to advertise their particular political party loyalties, the bishops have demonstrated that the pastoral charge given to them of promoting unity amongst the people of their own dioceses, and of the wider Church, takes lower precedence than advancing their own political agenda.

In the run up to a general election, Church of England bishops must recover the moral resolve to avoid being tempted into engaging in party politi-cal conflict. Only then, without per-ceived prejudice, can they participate convincingly in our national political debate. They may even discover fellow Christians, with political convictions as deeply held as their own, who dare to question whether a Tony Blair government would automatically herald the coming of God's Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL WINDRIDGE, 27 Strafford Road, Twickenham, Middlesex. March 2.

Field sports

From Mr Stuart Nelson

Sir, I was not pleased to see the sport of hare coursing referred to as a blood sport" in your report, "Hares may have met their last Waterloo" (February 26). This title, usually given to the whole range of field sports (which incidentally is the correct name), creates a totally wrong impression. After all, boxing, where you would see far more blood flying than you ever would out in the field, is never referred to as a "blood sport". And why not? Because it suggests that the supporters are there purely for the blood, guts and gore. This is not true either of boxing or the field sports.

People who follow field sports do so for the interest of seeing nature at work. It is fascinating to watch-hounds hunting by scent alone or greyhounds hunting by sight. Indeed, I have learnt a considerable amount about the countryside and nature from following field sports, not to mention the many other reasons l support them, such as conservation. population control, rural employment

and access to the countryside. I only wish more people would wake up to the fact that field sports are good for the flora and fauna.

Yours faithfully. STUART NELSON, Church Farm Riding School. Hilston, East Yorkshire. March 1.

Pre-match let-down

From Mr John Tusa

Sir, Melvyn Bragg is wrong in thinking that the BBC TV sports build-up fore the England/France Twicken ham international was just a bit of fun (article, March 3). It was on exactly the same lines as the advertising before the England/Italy football match.

The message of both was simple and deliberately anti-intellectual: "Letthose continentals have their sculpture and philosophy. We'll show them how to play the games we invented. See if their philosophy helps them." We lost both. Sad about the sport, sadder still about the underlying attitude.

Yours sincerely, JOHN TUSA. 21 Christchurch Hill, NW3. March 3.

No change

From Professor Frank Knowles Sir. During a journey on a recently

privatised railway route I heard the following announcement, which was relayed from the buffet car: To maintain the level of service to which you are accustomed, it will be necessary for us to close down the buffet for a short period.

Yours faithfully. FRANK KNOWLES, 221 St Bernard's Road, Solihull, West Midlands.

Portillo: the correction

From Mr Adam Clapham

Sir. Reading your correction today that Michael Portillo was educated at Harrow County Boys' School and not Harrow, it intrigues me to know whether the correction was prompted by Harrow County Boys' School claiming the Defence Secretary or Harrow School disowning him.

Yours faithfully. ADAM CLAPHAM, 254 Alexandra Park Road, N22.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 3: The Duke of Edinburgh, President Emeritus, World Wide Fund for Nature WWF International, today visited the Gemen und Kunsag National Parks in

Hungary.

His Royal Highness this evening attended a Dinner for World Wide Fund for Nature in Budapest. March 4: The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited the Pero In-

His Royal Highness afterwards called upon the Prime Minister of Hungary. The Duke of Edinburgh left Hungary this afternoon and flew to Turkey.

This evening His Royal Highness. President Emeritus, World Wide Fund for Nature - WWF Inter-national, attended a Dinner for DHKD Society for the Protection of Nature in Turkey) in Istanbul.

March 5: His Excellency Mr Murad Chariev was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Republic of Turkmenistan to the Court of St James's.

Six John Coles (Personnest Linder.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present. Admiral Leighton Smith was re-Admiral Legision Smith was re-ceived by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insig-nia of an Honorary Knight Com-mander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

General Sir Roger Wheeler was received by The Queen upon his appointment as Chief of the General

The President of the Republic of Zinnhabwe and Mrs Mugabe visited Her Majesty and remained to Luncheon.
The Duke of York was present.

The following were invited: Dr Stan Mudenge (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Dr Herbert Murerwa (Minister of Finance). Dr Nathan Shamuyarira (Minister of Industry and Commerce), His Excellency the High Commissioner for the Republic of Zimbabwe and Mrs Chideya, the Baroness Chalker of Wallasey. Sir John Coles and Mr Martin Williams The Duke of Edinburgh left Turkey

this morning.

His Royal Highness this afternoon arrived in Abu Dhabi. United Arab

The Duke of Edinburgh, President, National Playing Fields Association. was represented by Mr Christopher Laing (Chairman) at the Memorial Service for Mr Barry East which was held in the West London Synagogue March 5: The Princess Royal this

March 5: The Princess Royal this morning opened the new Care for the Elderly Unit. Ferryfield House, for the Edinburgh Healthcare NHS Trust and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieurenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Eric Mülligan, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Moredun Foundation for Animal Health and Welfare this afternoon.

Health and Welfare, this afternoon chaired the Retiral Lecture by Professor Ian Aiken at Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Midlothian (Captain George Burnet).

The Princess Royal, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, this evening attended the English Symphony Orchestra Concert at St James's Palace. CLARENCE HOUSE

March 5: Lieutenam-Colonel Hamish Macdonald today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief. Ist The Queen's Dragoon Guards, upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer. Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Mayall

also had the honour of being receiv by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Commanding Officer of 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards.

ST JAMESS PALACE
March S. The Prince of Wales this
morning left Royal Air Force Brize
Norton at the start of a visit to Saudi

Norton at the start of a visit to Saudi Arabia.

The following were present and took leave of His Royal Highness: Minister Plenipotentiary and Depoty Head of Mission from the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia (Dr Mohammed Al-Hussainy) and the Station Commander (Group Captain Devid Vasct)

His Royal Highness was received on arrival in Saudi Arabia by Prince Sattam bin Abdul Aziz. The Prince of Wales later attended

a Luncheon given by Prince Miteb bin Abdullah.

His Royal Highness, with Crown
Prince Abdullah, this afternoon attended the Janadriyya Festival.

The Prince of Wales this evening

ended a Dinner given by The Crown Prince. Lieutenant Commander John La-very RN and Miss Sondy Henney are

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE March 5: The Duke of Kent. President, this morning attended a Com-mittee Meeting of the Automobile Basingstoke, Hampshire. THATCHED HOUSE LODGE March 5: Princess Alexandra, Patron of Home-Start, this afternoon visited the Kingston Scheme at 132 Kingston Road, New Malden, Surrey.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will visit Kingsbury High School, Princes Avenue, Brent, NW9,

The Princess Royal, as President of Riding for the Disabled Association, will attend a council meeting at Saddlers' Hall at 10.50. Later, she will attend the Institute of Petroleum's annual dinner at the Glasgow Thistle Hotel, Glasgow, at 0.50. The Duchess of Gloucester will

attend a concert in aid of St Chris-topher's Fellowship Howard House Appeal at the Church of St James, St James' Gardens, WII. at 7.45. The Duke of Kent, will visit Flag Officer Sea Training HMS Drake, at Plymouth at and will visit HMS Coventry at sea on operational training at 7.45 am.

The Duchess of Kent, as parron, will unveil her portrait at Downing College, Cambridge, at 6.35 and later will attend a dinner.

Birthdays today

Dr M.G. Adam, astrophysicist, 85: Lorin Maazel, conductor, 67: Sir Sir Peter Barclay, former chairman, Social Security Advisory Malcolm Moss, MP, 54: Mme Committee, 71; Miss Jean Boht, actress, 6l; Mr William Davis, author, broadcaster and former chairman. British Tourist Authority, 64; Mr Don Dixon, MP, 68; Professor Sir Charles Frank, FRS. physicist, 86: Mr David Gilmour, musician and singer. 51; Sir Alistair Grant, chairman, Safeway, 60; Professor David Hendry, FBA. Professor of Economics. Oxford University, 53: Professor Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, former President, Wolfson College, Oxford, 74; Mr

Valentina Nikolayeva-Tereshkova first woman in space, 60; Mr Richard Noble, world land speed record holder, 51; Sir Ian Dixon Scott, dinlomat, 88: the Right Rev. David Sheppard, Bishop of Liverpool, 68: Professor Marilyn Strathern, FBA, social anthropologist, 56; Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, opera singer, 53: Mr P.C.R. Wates. chairman. Wates City of London Properties, 59; Mr D.H. Whitaker, publisher, 66: Mrs Ann Winterton, MP, 56; Sir Oliver Wright, dip-



The Beach at Trouville, painted by Monet in 1870, being hung at the National Gallery yesterday for an exhibition of most of the Monet paintings on view in London which opens next Wednesday. More than 658,000 people went to the last big Monet show in London at the Royal Academy in 1990

Miss Joy

please contact 01483 502323.

Mr Cecil Lewis

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Cecil Lewis, MC, will be held

on Thursday, June 12, 1997, at noon

at St Clement Danes, Strand, WC2.

Professor Sir Geoffrey

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Sir

Geoffrey Wilkinson, FRS, Nobel

Laureate, will be held at Holy

Trinity, Brompton, London SW7.

on Thursday, March 13, 1997, at

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Bill Bedford, OBE, AFC,

FRAeS, will be held on Thursday,

March 13, 1997, at 11.00am at \$

Clement Danes, Strand, WC2.

Wilkinson, FRS

Bill Bedford

Receptions

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was the host at a reception held yesterday evening at 10 Downing Street in recognition of the value of education.

HM Government Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a reception given yesterday lunchtime by Her Majesty's Government at 10 Downing Street in honour of the overseas delegates of the Forty-Sixth Parliamentary Seminar 1997 of the Common-wealth Parliamentary Association.

Luncheons

HM Government Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given yesterday by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in honour of Dr Istvan Szent-Ivanyi, Foreign Minister of Hungary.

Newspaper Society
Mr Robin Burgess, President of
the Newspaper Society, was the
host at a function field yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane to mark the retirement of Mr Dugal Nisbet-Smith, director of the society. Among those present

Lord Hussey of North Bradley. Lord McGregor of Durris, the Hon Sir Richard Storey, the Hon Jonathan Harmsworth, Sir Gordon Linacre, Sir Edward Pickering, Sir Frank Rogers, Sir Ray Tindle, Canon John Oates, Mr Frank Barlow, Mr Stanley Clarke, Mr Fred Johnston, Mr Ian Park, Mr Derek Smail, Mr Edwin Boorman, Mr Ted Crosbie, Mr Alan Graham Mr Michael Mander Mr Percy Roberts. Mr David Newell, Mr Churis Oakley and Mr

University news Oxford

Dr Henry Mayr-Harting, Fellow of St Peter's College, Oxford, and Reader in Medieval History, to be Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Oxford and a Lay Canon of Christ Church Cathedral

He succeeds the late Rev Peter Hinchliff.

Memorial services

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Mr Christopher Laing, Chairman of the National Playing Fields Association, at a memorial service for Mr Bertram David (Barry) East, property developer, held yesterday at the

West London Synagogue. Cantor Adrian Harman offici ated. Mr Douglas Insole, President of Essex County Cricket Club, and Mr Paul Orchard-Lisle. Senior Partner of Healey and Baker. gave addresses.

Group Captain W.G.G. Duncan

Air Vice-Marshal T.B. Sherrington represented the Air Staff at a memorial service for Group Cap-tain W.G.G. Duncan Smith held yesterday at St Clement Danes. The Rev Peter Bishop officiated. Mrs Jean Calcabrina, daughter Mr Barrie Duncan Smith. Mr David Duncan Smith and Mr Iain Duncan Smith, sons, and Mr Duncan Scott gave readings. Lord

Merlyn-Rees gave an address.

Henry Miles Gosling

A Memorial Service for Henry Miles Gosling will be held at St Edburg's Church. Bicester on 2.30pm.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Michelangelo Buonarroti, sculptor, painter and poet, Caprese, Tuscany, 1475; Savinien Cyrano de Bergerac, dramatist, Paris, 1619; Elizabeth Barrett Browning, poet, Durham, 1806; George du Maurier, caricaturist and novelist. Paris, 1834.

DEATHS: Davy Crockett, frontiersman, killed in the Battle of the Alamo, Texas, 1836; Charles Farrar Browne (pen name of Artemus Ward), humorous writer, Southampton, 1867: Louisa May Alcott, novelist. Boston, Massachusetts. 1888; Gordieb

combustion engine, Cannstatt,

Germany. 1900; John Philip Sousa, composer and band leader. Reading, Pennsylvania, 1932: Her-bert Morrison, Baron Morrison of Lambeth, statesman, Sidcup. 1965: Zoltán Kodály, composer, Budapest, 1967: Pearl S. Buck, novelist. Nobel laureate 1938. Danby. Vermont 1971. Aspirin was patented by Felix

Hoffman, 1899. The Herald of Free Enterprise ferry capsized outside Zeebrugge harbour with the loss of more than 200 lives, 1987.

Church news

Harley-Mason The Rev Alex Galbraith Curate Se A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Miss Joy Harley-Mason, Manhew and James, Mossley Hill: to be Vicar. St Francis, Kev former Headmistress of Beverley School, Selhurst School and and part-time Chaplain at South-port District General Hospital Guildford High School, will be held at Guildford High School on Wednesday, March 26, 1997. at 3.30pm. For further information Southport and Formby NHS Trust (Liverpool). The Rev Jane Moult, Curate

(NSM), St John in Bedwardine (Worcester): to be joint Curate, St Mark's, Bilton, Rugby (Coventry). Canon Nigel Pocock, Rector, Camborne, Rural Dean of Carnmarth North, and an Honorary Canon of Truro Cathedral (Trure): to be Vicar, Old Windsor St Peter and St Andrew (Oxford). The Rev Stuart Samuel, Rector, Hathern, Long Whatton and Diseworth w Belton and Osga-thorpe: to be Priest-in-charge, Wal-tham on the Wolds, Stonesby, Saxby cum Stapleford and Wyfordby: and Wymondham, Edmondthorpe and Garthorpe,

Buckminster w Sewstern and Coston: and The High Framland Parishes (Leicester). The Rev William Smith, Curate. St Michael's Stoke, Coventry: to be Vicar. Exhall (Coventry).

The Rev Elizabeth Walker, NSM, Ash w Ridley, and Chaplain of St George's School, Gravesend: to be Priest-in-charge, Burham and Wouldham (Rochester).

Resignations and retirements The Rev David Applin, Rector, Awbridge and Sherfield English (Winchester): to resign August 31. The Rev Michael Atkinson. Team Vicar, High Wycombe Team Min-istry, responsible for St James, Downley (Oxford): to retire August

The Rev Philip Ellion, Rector, Tredington and Newbold-on-Stour (Coventry): to retire March 31. The Rev Michael Hill, Vicar, Sunningdale, Holy Trinity (Oxford): to retire May 25. Canon David Towers, Rector, St. Peter, Burnley (Blackburn): to retire August 31.

Withdrawal of acceptance The Rev David Shrisunder has withdrawn his acceptance of the post of Honorary Assistant Curate in the parishes of Freethorpe, Halvergate w Tunstall Wickhampton and Cantley, Limpenhoe w Southwood and Reedham (Norwich).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.A. Shirley and Lady Mort The engagement is announced between David Shirley, of Litmore

MARTIN BEDDALL

Shaw. Ibstone, Buckinghamshire, and Catherine Morton, of Flore Fields, Flore, Northampton, widow of Sir William Morton. Captain N.F. Fanc

and Miss L.K.E. Schroder
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of the late Mr Michael Fane and of Mrs Michael Fane, of Blackdown, Hampshire, and Leonie, daughter London W8.

Mr J.M.I. Hardman and Miss S.J. Ashford The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Adrian Hardman, of Owslebury, Hampshire, and Sasha, elder daughter of Air Vice Marshal and Mrs Ronald Ashford, of Brent Knoll, Somerset

Mr A.M. Hepworth and Miss S.C. Dobrzynski The engagement is announced between Allan Macbeth, son of Mr

and Mrs Robert Hepworth, of Fernhill, Birtles, Cheshire, and Sophie Catherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Dobrzynski. of Brand Hall, Norton-in-Hales, Mr B.L. Hooper and Miss C.A. Pearce

The engagement is announced between Brendan Louis, youngest son of Mrs Maura Hooper and the ate Squadron Leader Brendan Hooper, of Bristol, and Coralie Anne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Pearce, of Wantage, The engagement is announced between Chris, youngest son of Mr

and Mrs John Hunt, of Sutton, Surrey, and Elaine, only daughter of Mr James Coombes, and step-daughter of Mrs Linda Coombes, of Up Holland, Lancashire. Mr S. Paterson

and Miss M.C. McBein The engagement is announced between Stewart, son of the late Mr Harry Paterson and of Mrs H.
Paterson, of Edinburgh, and Mary,
second daughter of Mr and Mrs
D.M. McBain, of Teffont, Wiltshire. Mr G.P. Sabroon

and Miss S.P.A. Brown The engagement is announced between Giles, only son of Patrick and Sheena Salmon, of Westcott, Surrey, and Sonya, eldest daughter of John and Peggy Brown, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

Marriage

Mr G.H.A. Chisenhale-Marsh and Miss L.M.A. Brockman The marriage took place on Thursday, February 20, at St Theresa's Church, Beauty Point, New South Wales, of Mr Guy Chisenhale-Marsh, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Chisenhale-Marsh, of Mickley, North Yorkshire, and Miss Liselle Brockman, daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Brockman.

of Mosman, NSW. Father Anthony Smith, SJ. officiated. The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was al-tended by Miss Kate Chisenhale-Marsh and Miss Christina Perez de la Sala. Mr Edward Theakston

eral, Lord and Lady Templeman. Lord Justice Stuart-Smith. Lord

Justice Potter. Mr Justice

Carnwath, the Chairman of the

Bar Council, the Deputy Vice-

President of the Law Society and

the presidents of local law societies

Mr Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of

State for Health, was the guest of

honour at a dinner given by the

British Medical Association last

night at BMA House, Sir Donald

Acheson, president, was in the chair. The Minister of State for

Health, Mr John Horam, MP.

were among the guests.

British Medical Association

Service dinners

Royal Irish Regiment Lieutenant-Colonel J.C.W. Brooks presided at a dinner of officers of the 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Catterick to mark victory at Barrosa (1811). Second Lieutenant S.W. Rosenfeld also spoke.

Cambridge University Air Air Vice-Marshal A.J. Stables. Chief Executive, Training Group Defence Agency, Headquarters Personnel and Training Com-mand, was the principal guest at

the annual dinner of the Cambridge University Air Squadron held last night in Duxford. Squadron Leader D.P. Calvert, Squadron Commander, presided. Mr M.C. Malone Lee, Vice-Chancellor of Anglia Polytechnic University, and Councillor J. Durrant, the Mayor of Cambridge, attended.

Dinners

Holborn Law Society Mr James Furber, President of the Holborn Law Society, presided at the annual dinner held last night at Lincoln's Inn. Mr George Carman, QC, was the guest speaker. The Vice-Chancellor of the Su-

preme Court, the Attorney-Gen-

Baroness Cumberlege, Sir Gra-ham Hart, Dr Graham Winyard. Dr Richard Smith and members of the association were among those

Royal Warrant **Holders Association** The following have been elected officers of the Royal Warrant Holders Association for the ensu-

President, Mr Alan Britten; Vice-President, Miss Anna Plowden; Honorary Treasurer. Mr Sam

Latest wills

ing year:

NW4, left estate valued at £2,303,245 net.

Cicely Valencia Lancaster, of Kelmarsh, Northamptonshire, left estate valued at £2,355,289 net. She left the proceeds of the sale of her jewellery, glass and paintings to PDSA Wood Green Animal Shelters, RSPCA, and Brooke Hospital for Animals.

Warlingham, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,018,475 net. Catherine Mary Kent, of Bourne-mouth, Dorset, left estate valued at £1,483,130 net. She left £3,000 to Guide Dogs for the

Robert Parker-Lowe of

Edith Marjorie Gwendoline Pearce, of Winchester, Hampshire, left estate valued

Shire, fell estate values at E1,007,564 net.
She left £800 to both the RNLI and the PDSA: £300 to St Bartholomew's Church, Hyde, Winchester.
Monica Alice Wrigley, of Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset, left estate valued at £1,172,337 net.

She left £5,000 to the National Trust to be used for the Lake District. Gary Parsons, of Carmarthen, left estate valued at £1,326,664

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A thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and may have it in all its full-ness. John 10: 10

BIRTHS

SEVAN - On Morch 4th at St Mary's, Paddington, to Emma (née Crawford) and Jeremy, a son, Charlie Ben Crawford. COBE - On March 4th 1997, to Samantha (ase Cowling) and Stephen, a son, Edward Eory Scott, a brother for Isabel

COWAN - On March 4th, to Meriel (nee Raine) and Simon, a son, Alexander. DEL AZAR - On March 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Helen and Juan, a son, Matias, a little brother for

GALITZINE - On 25th February, to Tania (née Meade) and Azdrel, a son, Alexel, brother for Helens.

JONES - On 28th February 1997 at Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirzal, to Sophie (nos Lewis) and Paul Jones, a daughter, Eleanor Louise. KOSLOVER - On February 14th at The Portland Hospital, to e ronuand Hospital, to te (née Baitz) and Paul, dous son, Oscar Harry n, a brother for Joshua.

MACKEMZIE - On 21st February 1997, to Joanna (nos Pierres) and Martus, a daughter, Earlie Mary, a sister for Alexander. MEYER - On 11th December, to Catherine (née Meade) and Gary, a daughter, Kim, sister for Anastasia.

SMEETON - On February 21st at The Portland Hospital, to Juliet (nee Bell) and Birhard, a daughter, Isabella Alice. VALENSTEIN - On March 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Kathleen and Richard, a daughter, Alexandra Dana, a sister for Kandall and Grant.

DEATHS

BORREY - Amena runsBogg Burke) died peacefully
at Church Farm Nursing
Home, Cotgrave,
Nottlighamshire, on 4th
March 1997. Much loved by
her family and friends.
Enquiries to Radellife and
District Funeral Service, tel:

DEATHS

DEAKIN - John, formerly Secretary of the Cavendish Laboratory, died suddenly on Sunday 23rd February 1997 in Madeira. Funeral Service at Churchill College Chanel. Cambridge on 1997 in Madeira Funeral Service at Churchill College Chapel, Cambridge on Monday 10th March at 2.30pm. Please send any domations to The National Kidney Research Fund or The British Heart Foundation c/o Harry Williams & Sons, 7 Victoria Park, Cambridge CB4 3Ej.

de CAMDOLE - On March 4th, peacefully after a long illness, Elizabeth (née Constable-Roberts) aged 83. illness, Elizabeth (ase Constable-Roberts) aged 83. Beloved wife of the late Eric Armar Vully de Candole C.M.C. C.B.E. adored mother of John, Charles and Andrew and much loved grandmother of Adrian, James and Micholss. Funerai Service at the Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Monday March 10th at 3 pm. Family flowers; donations if desired to E.S.P.C.A. may be sent c/o E.R. Hickmott & Son. 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, TNI 15D. A Memorial Service will be held at the Church of St John the Baptist, Burley, nr. Ringwood, Hants, on Pricky March 14th at 3 pm.

March 14th at 3 pm.

DERMS - Alice Pamela, dearly adored wife of Richard, and much loved by so many others, died suddenty on 2nd March 1997, aged 74. Funeral Service for local friends at Kimpton Church at 1.45 pm on Monday, March 10th, followed by cremation in Salisbury, Family Rowers only, please, but donations, if desired, to the Cianamon Trust, Foundry Square, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 4HH. Memorial Service for all in April/May - date to be advised Enquides to Geraid W. Burden (01980) 623262.

DRAGADZE - Peacefully on February 28th 1997 at home, St James's Square, London, Princess Daria Dragadze wife of Prince Fetter Dragadze, Funeral to be in Russia. HARVEY-BAILEY - Alec. On March 3rd 1997, beloved husband of the late foan and father of Rhoddy. Private cremation. Donations if

desired for the R.A.F.
Benevolent Fund may be sent to W. Jones & Son, Funoral Directors, Brailsford, Derby's, DE6 3DA

FOSTER - Patricia Mary 'Fot' (née Blyth) on March 3rd 1997, peacefully in Minehead Hospital, Sometset, aged 96. Wife of the late Norman Foster, formedy of Hatfield Broad Cak and Loughton, Essex. Mach lowed and admired by all her family and triends. Cremation at Taunton Desme Crematorium at 2 pm Tuesday 11th March. No flowers please, but donations if desired to the Parkinson's Disease Society of Hawkes & Son, Irnham Hoad, Minehead, Somerset TA24 5DW.

MEPTIMSTALL - Brigadier John, late RCT and No.5 Commando. Died March 3rd. Beloved husband to Kay, devoted father, father-in-law and grandpa. Service of Thanksgiving at Holy Trimity Church, Cowes, Isle of Wight on Monday March 10th at 2.30 pm followed by private cremation. No flowers. Donations to RASC/RCT Benevolent Fund. A retiring plate will be A retiring plate will be available at the church in aid of the Church Building Fund.

LATMER - Donald Courtensy of Kingswood, Surrey on Monday 3rd March, peacefully at home after a long illness, bravely borne. Dearly loved hasband of Roseinary and adored father of Mark, Charlotte and Micholas. Service to be held at 5t Andrew's Church. Lingswood at 250 pm on Monday 10th March, to which all family and friends are invited, followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to the Royal Marsder Hospital Gl and Lymphoma Fund or The Princess Alice Hospita Co WA Treelove & Sons, 121 High Street, Sanstead, Surrey SM7 2NS.

LAWLAN - Suddenly at home on March 4th aged 50 years, James (Hamish) of Corbridge, Northumberland, formerly of South Shields. Much loved husband of the late Margaret Scott (née McLaren), father of Alexandra, Andrew and John and a devoted grandfather. Service at Newcastle Crematorium on Monday 10th March at 2.30 pm. Family Gowers only piezee.

LUND - Howard on 4th March peacefully at Holywych aged 93, devoted hunband of Eilsen and much loved father of Gillian, Eichard and Nicholas, also sadly missed by many grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. Funeral St Mary Magdalen, Cowden, Wednesday 12th March at 2pm. No flowers please. Donations if desired to British Diabetic Association, Queen Aume Street, London W1.

MACHAGHTEN: James Stemart peacefully on March 5th aged 82 at his home in Hadlow. Cremation at Tumbridge Wells 11,30 am March 14th. No flowers donations to Scottish National Trust, 5 Chaptotte Square, Edinburgh, would be appreciated.

MARR - On March 4th Geoffrey T. Marr Commodore DSC, ED, aged 88, father of Graham and Cherry. Will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Foneral Service on Thursday 13th March at 1 pm 5t Mary's Church, Church Road, Long Dirton, Suzrey, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations to Royal Alfred Seafaners Society or RNLI. Co Fredk Paine, 265 Ewall Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7AA.

MARTIN - Antony on 28th February. Very peacefully in London. Funeral Service for family and friends at St Bartholomews, Spithurst, Barcombe, nr. Léwes, E. Sussex (01273-400206) at 12.45 pm Friday 7th March. Donations:- to St Johns Hosnice. St Johns Wood.

MASKALL - Pamela Elsie, deeply loved wife of Roland, wonderful mother to Jacqui, Guy and Jamle. Much loved by Angle and devoted grandmother to Eoxi and Tasha. Beloved sister to Doug, Jack and Peter. Passed away on 3rd March after an inspirational and coungeous battle, will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Enquiries (0181) 363-3221. Donations if desired to: The North London Hospice, 47 Woodside Avenue, Finchley, London N12.

MINICIAN - On 28th February 1997 at Hare Lodge, 1997 at Hare Lodge, Hallsham, East Sussez, Evelyn Mary aged 91 years, widow of Harry Minchin. A truly wonderful lady who always put the interest of others before her own. It was a privilege to have known her. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium Main Chapel on Tuesday 11th March at 3.15 pm. Flowers or donations for Lystede Cautre for Animal Welfere may be sent to Hame & Son Ltd., 19 South Street, Bastbourne.

STABLEFORD - Suddenly in Cowes, LO.W., on March 1st. David Gordon, nost beloved thusband of Frances, son of Belty, father and grandfather. A funeral service will be held at St. Thomas of Canterbury Chutch, West Cowes, at 12 noon on Tuesday March 1th. All exquiries to Ft. Lloyd Funeral Directors, tel: (01983) 293716.

TEESDALE - On March 5th Edmund Edmale Treesdale CMG, MC, aged 81. Dearly beloved husband of Joy, devoted father of Caroline, Hermione and Julia and loving grandfather of Jenna, Thomas, William, Toby, Eobert, Laura, Daniel, Cargel and Brendan. Funeral neivate.

TURNER - Lady Winifred Bessle, beloved widow of the late Sir Victor Tunner, LCS, on 3rd March 1977. Puperal Service at Guildford Crematorium 12 noos on Wednesday 12th March. Flowers to Pimms Fuperal Services, Charters, Mary Boad, Guildford GUI 4QZ.

WHEY - Joan Evelyn, beloved mother of Judith and John, peacefully in Watford General Hospital on 27th February 1997 aged 88 years. Sadly missed by her lamily and many friends. Requiens Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Bushey on 7th March at 11 am.

March at 11 am.

Wilkinson: Kathleen Mary, on 28th February 1997, peacefully in hospital, aged 76 years. Much loved by all her family. Funeral Service at Wesley Memorial Church, New Inn Hall Street, Orford on Wednesday 12th March at 12 noon. No Rowers please, but donations to NC-HO. clo Arnold Funeral Service, 911, London Road, Loudweter, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP10 9TF. (01494) 472572.

THANKSGIVING ROBERTS - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mrs Betty Hoberts will be held on Monday 24th March at 3.30 pm at Sr Mary's Church, Worplesdon, Surrey.

BARMARD - In loving memory of Mary lanthes who died on 6th March 1993 and of our children | Julia Anthes Mariet He and Fieter Johannes, Emil. CADELL - Simon. In memory of my beloved son, died March 6th 1996, remembered this day and all days. Ruller - in loving memory of jill Elizabeth who died on 31st December 1992 on this her birthday. Emil.

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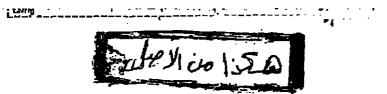
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CAPTAIN A. J. BAKER CRESSWELL

Captain A. J. Baker Cresswell, DSO, wartime destroyer commander. died on March 4 aged 96. He was born on February 2, 1901.

Through his quick thinking during a Uboat attack on a convoy in the North Atlantic in May 1941, Joe Baker Cresswell made an immeasurable contribution to the Royal Navy's victory in the Battle of the Atlantic. When the U-boat U110 was brought to the surface by Baker Cresswell's ship Bulldog and abandoned by her crew, it was a natural instinct to sink her by gunfire or ramming, before picking up survivors.

But just as one of Bulldog's

escorting destroyers was getting up speed to accomplish the latter, Baker Cresswell suddenly remembered his staff college lecture on the capture of valuable German ciphers from the light cruiser Magdeburg in 1914. To the surprise of his fellow escort commanders, he ordered all offensive action to cease and instead had the German submarine boarded. Among the resulting haul of highly classified documents and equipment recovered was a German Enigma machine which enhigh-grade "officer only Kriegsmarine signal traffic to be read. It was one of the vital blows struck in the battle against the U-boats.

_Addison Joe Baker Cresswell was educated at Gresham's School, Holt, and joined the Royal Navy in 1918. Specialising in navigation, he was promoted to commander by 1937 and the outbreak of the war found him on General

Wavell's staff in Cairo. From 1940 he was on convoy escort duty and was to be involved, in one way or another, in antisubmarine warfare until the end of the war. On May 9, 1941, he was commanding the destroyer Bulldog, as senior officer of the escort group covering convoy OB318 in the North Atlantic south of Iceland. OB318 had already been attacked by a number of U-boats, among which was UllO. commanded by Kapitānleutnant Fritz-Julius Lemp, whose sinking of



the liner Athenia on Septem ber 1, 1939, had precipitated the U-boat war.

With Leutnant Kuppisch in U94 Lemp had already scored some striking success against OB318, sinking two of its merchant ships. But in a momentary lapse of concentration he failed to perceive the danger from the convoy's escorts and was himself attacked by the destroyers Bulldog. Broadway and Aubretia, the last of which wreaked terminal damage on the submarine. with a well placed pattern of depth charges. With hydro-planes and rudder wrecked, all power and lighting out and with water surging in, Lemp ordered all tanks to be blown and the stricken U110 lurched to the surface.

Baker Cresswell ordered his guns' crews to open fire and set course to ram, as did the captain of Broadway. Lemp. meanwhile, told his crew to abandon ship as 4.7-inch, 3inch and pom pom shells burst about his stricken craft.

It was at that point that Baker Cresswell had the happy inspiration not to administer the coup de grace, but to board the hapless enemy. Ordering his own and Broadway's guns crews' to check their fire, he had Bulldog's seaboat launched. But with foresight he had the German prisoners picked out of the water, first, and hustled below so that they should not see what was happening.

Lemp, however, could see exactly what was intended and, in the confusion, swam back to UIIO with one of his petty officers, perhaps with





Seawolf at bay: top, U110 forced to the surface as Bulldog lowers her whaler which then pulls across a heavy swell to the stricken submarine

some idea of manning her gun, or of going below and destroying top-secret material. Baker Cresswell, who had no intention of allowing himself to come under fire from an enemy craft whose life he had already spared, ordered fire to be opened again with a Lewis gun, and the two men, who could be seen in the vicinity of the U-boat's deck gun, were hit

and disappeared over the side. Lemp was never seen again. Bulldoe's whaler now closed with the submarine and

Sublieutenant Balme, who was in charge of the boat, went below and discovered unsuspected riches of codebooks, charts showing German minefields and, above all, the invaluable naval Enigma machine. The list of settings

for it was found in Lemp's cabin, making this one of the most important naval intelligence breakthroughs of the war. This priceless accuisition was ferried back to HMS Bulldog.

From that moment until February 1942 high grade German naval signals traffic could be read without delay at decoding facility

Bletchley Park. There was then a gap when the Germans introduced extra rotors to the Enigma, But when HMS Petard captured the new rotors from USS9 in the Mediterranean in November 1942, the flow of signals could be deciphered once more. Once the signals office of

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U110 had been cleared of valuable material, the boat was taken in row by Bulldog. The aim was to tow her into Reykjavik, but during that night a gale sprang up and she suddenly started sinking by the stern. Reluctantly, Baker Cresswell ordered the towline to be slipped. But the accident was perhaps a lucky one. The Germans heard that U110 had been sunk and throughout the war never realised that the Enigma she carried had been compromised.

In Britain, too, all records of the event were expunged and even the official naval history, The War at Sea (1954), by Captain S. W. Roskill made no mention of it. At the investiture for his DSO, Baker Cresswell was told by King George VI that his feat was one of the most significant events of the war at sea, and but for the necessity for security, a higher award would have been made. It was only in the 1980s, when the secret of Ultra intelligence was allowed to be published, that Baker Cresswell's exploit

entered the public domain.

After Bulldog, Baker
Cresswell was put in charge of training escort vessels and their crews from the converted steam yacht Philante, and was subsequently Chief of Staff to Sir Max Horton, C-in-C Western Approaches. His last wartime appointment was as Senior Officer Far Eastern Escort Vessels. After the war he served as Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence, retiring from the Navy in 1947.

In retirement in Northumberland, he threw himself into local public service as a JP and as chairman of Alnwick Infirmary. He was appointed High Sherriff of Northumberland in 1963. He loved country sports. particularly fishing.

In 1926 he married Rona, from Auckland. She and a son and daughter survive him. Another daughter predeceased him.

DR GUY WIGLEY



Dr Guy Wigley, former Medical Adviser to the Greater London Council died on February 9 aged 83. He was born on January 28, 1914.

AN INNOVATOR both in his professional life and during his retirement, as County Medical Officer for Middlesex from 1962 to 1965 (and as deputy from 1950) Guy Wigley pioneered changes in treat-ment and care for the mentally ill and mentally handicapped.

Under his direction, in 1957 the Middlesex health department set up the first special care unit in the world for mentally handicapped children. He was prominent in other pioneering ventures including the first of Middlesex's many homes for the posthospital mentally ill (1960) and the first day centre for the elderly mentally infirm (1964).

With the reorganisation of local government he transferred to the Greater London Council as deputy medical adviser from 1965 to 1973 and medical adviser until his retirement in 1979. Here too he was an enthusiastic innovator. He reformed the London Ambulance Service and helped to develop new resuscitation techniques and training for paramedics. He streamlined staff medical services.

His energy was also dis-played outside his working hours. He was a trustee of the Disabled Living Foundation since its inception and a member of many organ-isations in the field of mental and other handicaps.

His background, however, was solidly conventional. He daughter.

lived in the same Edwardian house in Barnes for over 70 years, until he and his wife Louise, to whom he was married for more than 50 years until her death in 1988. moved to a riverside flat a few hundred yards away.

He was educated at St Paul's School, trained at Guy's Hospital immediately before the Second World War, and after a year in general practice joined the Royal Navy. He saw active service on Malta and Russian convoys and reached the rank of surgeon lieutenant-commander.

In retirement, the high spot of his year was to attend the Henley Regatta. He also liked nothing better than to pick out the different rowing crews as they passed his window, which gave him a perfect view from Barnes Bridge to Chiswick Eyot. Until he was 80 he would start each day with a two-mile walk across Barnes and Putney Commons for a

one-mile swim at a local pool. He also sustained his committment to improvements in the wellbeing of the mentally ill and mentally handicapped, and was the first chairman of the Richmond and Barnes Association for Mental Health, which supported a series of group homes as stepping stones back into society for those recovering from mental breakdowns. He also started a highly

successful counselling service. He was helping troubled people up to the end by listening to their difficulties whenever they telephoned or came to see him.

He leaves a son and

LORD KINNAIRD

Lord Kinnzird, 13th Lord Kinnaird, died on February 27 aged 84. He was born on September _ 15, 1912.

LORD KINNAIRD lived and died by the hereditary principle, for he was the last in a line tracing its origins to feudal times and, with his death, a barony becomes extinct. A diligent member of the House of Lords, he made quirky contributions to its proceedings and, after a career in banking and stockbroking, returned to Scotland to run the

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When Graham Charles Kinnaird came of age the feudal spirit lingered: a bonfire was lit on Dron Hill, overlooking Rossie Priory, the family seat near Inchrure in Perthshire, and the young Master was given various gifts by tenants and servants, then numbering about 200 in an estate of 12,000 acres.

He traced his line to Radalphus Rufus, granted a feudal charter by William the Lion. King of Scotland from 1165 to 1214. The Scottish peerage was created in 1682. the 1st Lord Kinnaird having been knighted by King

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Charles II. The UK barony of Rossie was created in 1860 for the 9th Lord Kinnaird.

The young Kinnaird was educated at Eton and entered banking, in which there was a strong family tradition. His family had been active from the early 19th century in Morland, Ransom of Pall Mall, later taken over by Barclays. It had also been involved in the promotion of the railways and sport: Kinnaird's grandfather was an outstanding football player for Old Etonians and president of the Football Association for more than 50 years.

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officer in the RAF Volunteer Reserve and in the 4/5th Battalion of the Black Watch. After the war, he settled in Essex and commuted to the City of London, where he worked in a small firm of stockbrokers in the days before the Big Bang, when the City was a village run by

gentlemen. He returned to Scotland about five years before the death of his father and took over the running of the estate. now somewhat reduced by death duties but still a substantial mixture of arable and

LEGAL NOTICES

TRUCK FUNDING PLC (IN
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
A meeting of the creditors of
Track Funding Pic is to be held
at Price Waterbouse, No 1

Track Funding Fic is to be held at Price Waterhouse, No. 2 London Still 90L on 24 March 1997 at 10 30xm under the provisions of section 2.4 March 1997 at 10 30xm under the insolvency Act 1994. The purpose of the overlaps of the section of the section of the section and if the creditors wish to do so, to appoint a creditors committee. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.

RESTREL CONTRACT HIRE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above company are required, on or befower that the creditors of the above company are required, on or befower that the creditors of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their solicitors. If any) to me lamic Taylor of The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southond-on-See and if so required by notice in writing from me, are personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or is default thereof they will be

specified in such notice, or in default thorsof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such

Jamie Taylor
LIQUIDATOR
NB This notice is purely formal.
All known creditors have been
paid in full but if any person
considers he has a claim against
the company he should send in
his claim forthwith.

meeting. A j Barrett, Johnt Admb

3 March 1997

hill land. He found great pleasure in his trips to London and the family flat in Chelsea. and for some 20 years was a regular attender at the House of Lords.

in the light of the contemporary discussion about the hereditary component in the Upper House, his speeches interventions over the years make interesting reading. He was at once both fiercely conservative on the matter of tradition and staunchly liberal on the matter of individual rights. Despite a tendency to flirt with the mixed metaphor, his speeches show flashes of eloquenice.

His maiden speech in 1973 was on the subject of noise — because he had been advised to choose as a topic "something that makes me really angry". He was a light sleener in his top flat in Durham Place which, he said, seemed like an extension to the runway at Heathrow — in a later exchange a minister was to acknowledge it was the Clapham Junction of the skies. Kinnaird described noise as a living enemy. "Its waves of assault are like those of the sea. They come at you from all directions, like flashes from a bomb as it bursts." He returned to the same subject in the first question he tabled, when he asked at what height aircraft were allowed to fly over Chelsea Bridge.

His subsequent interventions found him defending tradition and individuality. Man, he observed, was not created equal and there was

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT LATELY IN SPAIN)

happy-go-lucky city where nothing ever

anained its due share of immediate

attention, where all events were received

with an incredulous smile and com-

mented on with facile wit, where people

were friendly and talked easily - too

easily - where life flowed leisurely,

weather was pleasant, living was cheap.

Today, under the double strain of an

incredibly violent revolutionary process

within its gates and a merciless war

without, only the cynicism, blunted by

suffering, remains. Food, after a 31

months' siege, remains the first of ever-

recurring worries. An obsession, it even

takes precedence over the war as a

conversational theme, and indeed this is

no wonder in a city where butter, eggs,

milk, coffee, fish, and fresh meat have

long been only memories. The rice,

lentils, beans, salted cod, chick-peas, the

bread, oil, sugar, salt, the occasional

and work never very hard.

Three years ago Madrid was a gay.



no such thing as an ordinary person. He urged stronger measures against crime, and called for it to be made unlawful to cause disruption in the nationalised industries or public utilities - an attitude prescient of current Tory policy.

He denounced Marxism among trade unionists and urged them not to meddle in politics. He attacked the "bad manners" of British Airways staff, and compared the state airline unfavourably with British Caledonian. He deplored football hooliganism and complained about bad language on television which is constantly hurled into our homes without time even to bolt the back door".

Yet he was a champion of a

fair wage for farmworkers. He defended the right of Sikhs not to wear motorcycle helmets. He opposed compulsion in the matter of seatbelts, and denounced moves to ban smoking in trains. What would BR do, he asked, if a train broke down?

He was at his most eloquent whenever he saw a threat to tradition. He warned his noble friends not to "monkey about" with people's wills. He

opposed changes to the ceremony of introduction to the Lords. Aiready, he noted, we had tampered with the Bible, the Prayer Book and the Church of England service -"with not very good results".

The devolution legislation of the 1970s, though he did not oppose it, troubled him greatly and his speech became a lament for a dissipated patrimony. We are no longer a wealthy country; yet squander our money as if there were no end to it. We are no longer a self-supporting country, yet we allow our industries to be brought to a halt. We used to be a traditional country; but the powersthat-be see fit to do away with county boundaries ... Soon we may be in danger of splitting ourselves in two, like the atom."

His final contribution, in 1993 during a debate on the health control of imported livestock, was a question: "My lords, can my noble friend please tell me what is the warble fly?"

Lord Kinnaird will be remembered as a kindly, modest and rather shy man. Apart from the affairs of his estate. his chief private interest was in art and antiques. He was particularly fond of French 19th-century paintings.

His first marriage to Nadia Fortington, in 1938, was dissolved in 1940. He is survived by Lady Kinnaird (Diana Copeman), whom he married in 1940, and by their four daughters. In 1951 his only son died of an illness at the age of

LEASE

CXX

THE ORDEAL OF MADRID ON THIS DAY THIRTY MONTHS BESIEGED

March 6, 1939

A healthy climate and excellent water supply

enabled the city to escape epidemics, but for tobacco a combination of thyme, incense and tea-leaves was substituted, and for shoe leather slices of old car tyres.

fruit and vegetables are all strictly rationed in quantities barely sufficient for existence. Two and a half years of such a regime has told profoundly on the physique and morale of the population. The work of the only relief organizations operating in Madrid the Scottish Ambulance Unit, the International and the local Red Cross, the Swiss Aid to Children, and the Save the Children International Union, whose milk and other supplies have saved countless lives threatened by starvation

- represents only a fraction of the assistance the town requires if a determined check is to be put on the increasing death-rate and on the rising tide of tuberculosis, psycho-neurosis. and other physical and moral ills . . .

There are no public restaurants. In the crowded cafes, which must close by 5, no solid food is served, only a milkless, sugarless malt substitute for coffee, bad liqueurs, and worse wines. By 9 o'clock theatres and cinemas must be closed. No light must shine out of windows, and streets are kept dark. By 10 o'clock, when the once so characteristic night-life was just beginning, a general curfew drives everybody home, and thereafter the nightly password or a special authorization is required in the streets. The question of private property seems to have been relegated for solution when the war is over. Anti-Fascist and foreign landlords retain their property, but, although a decree has reduced rents to about half their pre-war figure, they have to pay full

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102 dilf, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the
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Notice is also given pursuant to
Rule 4.182A that 1 propose to
make a lirst and final distribution to the creditors of the Cotspany. All creditors are required
to send full details in writing of
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1997, which is the last date for
proving The titual distribution to
registrate will be made without
regard to any claims not received
by the last date for proving.
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able to pay all of its renditors in
full.
DATED THIS 3rd day of March table DATED THIS 3rd day of March

PERSONAL MENTINOPORTAL MODERNIA MENTINOPORTAL MENTINOPORTA

Bargains of the week — from an exotic beachside holiday in Malaysia to a shopping festival in Dubai

FLIGHTS

BUSINESS-CLASS flights to Australia with Malaysia Airlines cost £1,900 through Flight Bookers. The deal is valid all year, if you book by March 31. Details: 0171-757

TRAILFINDERS has a £385 spring special fare to Johannesburg flying Sabena. The deal is valid until May 24. excluding Easter. Details: 0171-938 3939

■ AIR UK has winter-saver fares of £99 return to Copenhagen, Frankfurt, Ham-burg, Munich and Zurich. Milan is priced at £125 and Florence at £139. Details: 0345 666777.

■ VIRGIN ATLANTIC flights to New York. Boston or Washington cost £215 (including tax) if bought before tomorrow. Depart by March 20. Details from Air Tickets Direct 0990 320321.

■ EASTER departures to Toronto from Gatwick, Manchester and Glasgow cost E199 Details from the charter operator Globespan: 0990 561522.

CRESTA Holidays is making

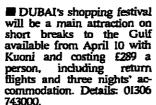
HOUDAYS

two-centre deals to Italy more affordable by offering free domestic flights between six leading cities. Two nights in Rome and two in Milan this using Alitalia flights and B&B hotel accommodation. Details: 0990 561814.

■ CITY BREAKS before Easter are available at special prices from American Express Travel Service. Two-night breaks and return flights to Dublin cost £159 a person and to Venice £177. Prague for three nights costs £255. Details: 0345 700400.

■ NORWAY for a week for £299 a person with a flight from Gatwick on March 16 is on offer from Advantage Travel Centres and includes B&B. Details: 0990 881888.

■ THE Malaysia Experience is offering Pangkor Laut beach resort holidays from April I to June 15 from £859 a person, including return flights from Heathrow and seven nights' accommodation. Details: 0181-424 9548.



■ LATE-SEASON skiing in Meribel is on offer from £399 a person from April 13 for a week with Meriski. Price in-cludes return flights and cha-let accommodation. Details:

■ TURKEY for a week, at a saving of EllO a person, is available from Tapestry Holi-days. The flight, from Gatwick on May 4, includes B&B at a hotel with private beach on Turunc Bay. Price £199. Details: 0181-742 0055.

TWO CHILDREN go for the price of one on any 1997 United Vacations holiday booked this month. The offer will save families at least £300. A week's fly-drive holiday in Florida in August will cost £619 an adult. The first child costs £389 and the second goes free. Details: 0181-313 0999.



Bali for ten nights at the Dynasty Hotel is available for £755 a person from Airline Network and includes return BA flights. Details: 01772 727757

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WIN a chance of two nights at the Old Course Hotel, St Andrews, during the Millennium Open golf champion-ship in July, 2000 by staying on the hotel's "not just for golfers" weekend break this month, priced £99 per room. Details: 01334 474371.

■ LA CHENĖVIĖRE. French château-style hotel in Normandy, is offering three, four and six-day cooking courses from its resident chef. Cost is from £245 a person. based on double occupancy. and includes food and drink Details: 00 332 31512525.

■ AN early spring offer is available from more than 40 Quality Hotels and Comfort inns until the end of March. Average cost is £29.75 a person, based on double occupancy, and including dinner. Details: 0800 444444.

HILTON UK has weekend breaks with prices starting from £96 a person for three nights and including discounts on local attractions. Details: 0800 856 8000.

STAY two nights over

HOTELS

Easter at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Midhurst, Sussex, and get a third night free. Price is from £55 a person a night including dinner and based on double occupancy. Details: 017

THE Mayfair Inter-Conti-nental Hotel in central London has relaunched its restaurant under the name Opus 70 with a two-course lunch menu at £16 per head. Details: 0171-344 7070. ■ SEVEN nights for the price of six are available at the Long

Bay Hotel, in Antigua, a family-run hotel set on a private estate on the island. Cost, for departures during April and May through CV Travel, is £1,039 a person including flights, transfers and meals. Details: 0171-581

A 20 per cent post-Easter discount is available from Rookery Hall, at Nantwich, Cheshire from Easter Day until April 3. Dinner, bed and breakfast is reduced from £80 a person a night, based on double occupancy, to £64. Details: 01270 610016.

IRISH FERRIES has a 48hour special fare from Holyhead to Dublin of £124 Equivalent to a third off-standard fares of £186, the

offers applies before March 26. Details: 0345 171717. ■ P&O FERRIES is offering 24-hour returns on Dover-Calais as well as day trips. A 24-hour ticket costs £19 a car and £4 a passenger. Day trips cost £15 a car and £1 for each passenger (both carry £10 supplements for Saturday and

Bank Holiday travel) until

June 30. Details: 0990 980980.

■ STENA Line starts operation of its Lynx fast ferry on the Fishguard-Rosslare route on March 10 and is offering foot passengers day trips for 18 return. A conventional ferry also operates the route. Details: 0990 767676.

■ MOTHERING SUNDAY aboard a ferry to Denmark is offered by Scandinavian Seaways with a minibreak departure from Harwich on March 8. The package, from £79, includes two nights on board and a third on ship or in an Esbjerg hotel. Details: 0990 333111.

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PINKERTON'S EYE

LOW RISK

IN separate incidents, at the

end of last month, two chlo-

rine gas bombs were planted

in eastern suburbs of Sydney,

Australia, and the toxic fumes

injured 23 people. Despite

recent explosions, western

MODERATE RISK

An oil company employee has

has been found shot dead

about 25 miles west of

Pictersburg, South Africa.

Since the Government's accep-

threat of violence in Bulgaria

3 lair backs off polling eferendum

found buried

Woman's body 🥬

New terry safety

rules condemnal 🌶

Paedophiles exceed million

Lailing school



Disney's meal offer

THOUSANDS of British holidaymakers to Orlando, Flo-rida, who bought theme-park-admission tickets in advance in the UK are being given free breakfast and lunch vouchers at Walt Disney World restaurants to compensate for the rise in the value of the pound against the dollar.

TicketShop USA, a leading British retailer of Florida theme-park tickets, this week started sending the vouchers to customers who bought tickets earlier this year and have since seen the pound increase in value against the dollar by about 10 per cent.

Maggie Smit, TicketShop's general manager, says: "We thought it was the best way to compensate holidaymakers in the short term.

Each voucher, available at selected Disney restaurants, is worth several dollars.

Keith Prowse, a rival ticket agency, says it has no plans to TicketShop's move. "Our ticket prices," a spokeswoman says, "are already the lowest."

Keith Prowse is selling the popular five-day "world-hop-per" pass to Disney World for £143, compared with £145.50 by TicketShop. Disney Stores is offering the lowest price this week for an adult five-day pass: £138.50. But this will increase on Saturday to just over £144 after a rise in all Disney admission prices last

 TicketShop USA 0181-995 8225. Keith Provise 01232 232425.

> TRAVEL ON SATURDAY

Nevis, Necker,

Barbuda and St

Barths -

Anthony Holden

on the

тоуа

The best inns of

England and

Tunisla:

Club Med

Caribbean

Britons move France to top of holiday list

BY TONY DAWE

THE great return to France by British tourists who deserted the country because of a poor exchange rate and union disputes is gathering pace as once-frequent visitors look for undiscovered areas.

Crystal Holidays, which reports a surge in bookings, says the Tarn in southwest France has shot to fifth place in its list of clients' favourite regions. The French Tourist Office in

London says that inquiries have increased by 20 per cent with growing interest in the lesser-known western provinces of Aquitaine and Charente.

This year's early Easter has helped to boost tourism with thousands booking a late skiing trip over the holiday and others heading for the south of the country to escape the rain Camping specialists, includ-

ing Canvas Holidays and Eurocamp, report a marked increase in bookings after a dismal 1996. Britanny Ferries Holidays, which has taken over the Gites de France programme, says the self-catering market is booming. The company is also promoting out-of-the-way properties. including a windmill in the Midi Pyrenees and a converted dovecote near Auch in the

Holidaymakers who look after themselves in tents or cottages were the first to desert France when each pound would only buy Fr7.70 but with the exchange rate at Fr9.25, they are eager to

"Almost every other day brings a record level of bookings," says Debbie Marshall. product director of Crystal France, which specialises in self-drive villa holidays and is offering free en route hotel accommodation this year. "We have now achieved 250 bookings in a day and 1997 looks like being a fabulous year. "While the Dordogne con-tinues to head our top ten list

with its stunning scenery, superb food and wine and quality villas, the Tarn has leapt in popularity this year. With its varied scenery, excellent walking and historic

THETOPTEN

I Dordogne 2 Côte d'Azur 3 South Brittany 4 Languedoc 5 Tam 6 Loire 7 Vendée 8 Charente

9 North Brittany

10 Côte Basque/Aquitaine

resembles the Dordogne but is like that region used to be before the British discovered it in their thousands."

Marie-Stella Ray, of the Tarn Tourist Board, says wine tours have been introduced to give vistors the chance to taste Gaillac wines and visit vineyards first planted by the Romans. Tours of the fortified bastide towns and Albi are also available. Walking tours of the region

are among the holidays featured by Sherpa Expeditions, which specialises in cycling and walking holidays. The first tours of the season start shortly and cost £599 a person including return scheduled flights from London, bed and breakfast in chambres d'hôtes. most meals and detailed Frank McCready, the com-

pany's managing director, says: "Our bookings are up about 10 per cent this year but we also had a lot of growth last year as confidence in the British economy returned after three fairly grim years." Gillian Green, of the French Tourist Office, says: "Calls to our inquiry line have increased by about 20 per cent this year. All sectors of the tourist industry are doing very



هكذا من الاعليم

With its scenery, walking and historic towns like Albi, the Tarn is increasingly popular

Channel war resumes

By Steve Keenan

RENEWED competition on Channel ferry fares this sommer returned this week after P&O Ferries and Stena Line learnt that a decision on merging their operations out of Dover has been delayed, probably until after the general election. The delay in

Monopolies & Mergers Commission recommendations virtually rules out a merger this summer. Hostilities resumed when

P&O offered Dover-Calais returns for E145 until April 30, up to 45 per cent off peak brochure prices of £268 for a

car and up to nine passengers. Hoverspeed, meanwhile, is continuing its early booking

offer until the end of March. Stena, Le Shuttle and Sea France are now expected to retaliate, breaking the fragile truce that awaited the MMC

HIGHRISK

is receding.

Kidnapping is a boom industry in Guatemala. Travel in rural areas after dark is not advised and inadequate assistance from the police is common. Police in Old Delhi, India, describe bombs planted there late last month, wounding at least ten people. as the type used by Muslim separatists rebelling in Kashmir. Tit-for-tat attacks by extremists are rising Pakistan.

SETTEMENSK!

After a particularly violent month of Ramadan in Algeria, the Armed Islamic Group has threatened further violence in the run-up to the forthcoming elections.

THE PERMIS

On March 21, Kurds in Turkey. Iraq and Iran will celebrate their new year (Now Ruz). In Turkey this date usually signals the beginning of the PKK's spring offensive against the Government. Paan Day on March 23 could trigger renewed attacks on the Hindu minority by Muslims. Pinkertons 0181-424 8884

Safety deadline hits cruise lines CRUISE ship operators are

positively."

By Harvey Elliott

struggling to beat deadlines for tough new international safety regulations similar to those on commercial airliners. Hundreds of changes are being forced on cruise lines from July in the wake of disasters at sea in which more than 1,000 people died.

These include the provision of smoke detectors, water sprinklers, floor-level lighting to guide passengers towards exits and the isolation of stair from the effects of smoke and

been told to check arriving ships to prevent them from sailing if they have not met the

Though many have already been modified, it is feared that overstretched shipyards may not be able to complete the work in time. Some ship-

owners have therefore decided

to dispose of their liners rather than pay for the alterations. It is estimated that it would lion to bring Canberra up to the new standards, so the 36-

up for sale. Cunard, meanwhile, has spent more than £12 million on refurbishing the QE2 to meet the standards, and plans to have the remaining 20 per cent of the work completed by midsummer in time for the 30th anniversary of the launch of the ship.

Saga, which is soon to take delivery of the 32-year-old Sagafjord and rename the all the work completed by the end of December at a cost of Ports around the world have year-old vessel has been put more than £5 million. And

operator, is confident that it can meet the deadlines and is spending at least £3 million on installing new safety equipment to meet the new require-At least six new cruise liners

worth more than El billion will come onto the market this year and ten more next to cope with the soaring demand for Only 91,000 Britons took a

sea cruise ten years ago, but ed to reach 500,000 and to double again within the next

New British holiday airline takes off BRITAIN'S newest holiday air-

line begins operations today with two Boeing 757 flights to Lanzarote from Manchester, Harvey Elliott writes. Flying Colours, the third airline started by Errol Cossey, will carry most of the 750,000 customers of Sunset Holidays and Club 18-30, the fastgrowing tour operations of the Flying Colour Leisure Group.

Mr Cossey founded both Air credited with changing the face of charter flying by insisting on using only new jet

kind of in-flight service previously associated only with scheduled carriers. Flying Colours, which will

have four new Boeing 757s and an Airbus A320, has also negotiated to take over British Airways services from Gatwick to the Caribbean via Tampa, Florida. British Airways is concerned at the low profit margins on many leisure routes a lower-cost carrier such as Flying Colours can operate them more efficiently.

THE CHINA SUITE THE SUNDAY TIMES Four unique itineraries around China based on concessionary tariffs offered by British Airways THE NEW GARBO? The Yangtse Gorges

A 9-day visit from £895.00 The dam across the Yangtse will change everything. Most people are now aware that the Chinese have commenced the preliminary work of constructing adamacross the Yangtseclose to the spectacular Three Gorges which has lead to an enormous upsurge indemand for Yangtse cruises to see the Gorges before their character changes for ever. We have secured a few places on a limited number of the 1997 cruises and combined it with concessionary fares from British Airways. Itinerary in Brief



Tom Shone interviews Kristin Scott Thomas - read it this weekend

PLUS Win a £50,000 investment from Fidelity THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS



Day 8 Fly to Peking and visit the Creat Wall.

Day 9 Fly to Heathrow arriving the same day.

1997 Departures & Prices

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ation throughout, full board, and

Day I Denart London Heathrowbynon-stooffight

Day 2 Arrive Peking transfer to the 4-star Kiyuan Hotel. Afternoon city tour including Forbidden City and Summer Palace. Days 3-7 Flyto Wuhan and board the MVY angise Paradise for a five-night cruise through the Three Gorgesand Little Gorges, calling at Shashi, Wushan, Fengdu to Chongoing.

Day 8 Morning flight to Peking. Afternoon Day 9 Fly to London Heathrow arriving

1997 Departures & Prices April 14,6950,00-May 5,6995.00 July 28.6950.00 - August 25.6950.00 Singlesupplement.£395.00 Balconysupplement.£285.00 tectuations: I ransportation throughout, escursions as indicated, full board on cruise, and room and realistics in Pelsing, Not included overseas airmort uses, transfer in terms.

The Silk Route Revisited The Buddhist Treasures at Dunhuang - A 9-day visit from £1250.00

In recent times it has been extremely difficult to reach Dunhuang to see the spectacular Buddhist Grottoes set into a mountainside. The journey often involved long and uncomfortable train journeyswhich also made the undertaking very expensive. Recently an airport has been constructed close to Liuyuan - the railhead for Dunhuangand regular twice weekly flights operate from Xian to which we have combined with a two-day stay to see the Terracotta Warriors, and Peking for the Great Wall and Ming Tombs. Starting in Xian, the Silk Rnad followed the Cansu Corridor and across the Taklamakan Desert. The oasis town of Dunhuang was considered to be both the first and last town in China and also the place where Buddhism was introduced into China in 111 BC. The 1000 Buddhist caves contain some of the world's finest Buddhistart. Of the original 1000 caves some 460

still remain. Itinerary in Brief Day 1 Fly non-stop to Peking. Day 2 Arrive Peking in the morning and relax.

Afternoon city tour. Day 3 Fly to Xian stay two nights and visit Bell Tower and Terracotta Warriors. Days 4 - 7 Fly to Dunhuang and stay three nights visiting the caves and nearby casis.



The Middle Kingdom 9 days from £585.00

The arrangement commences with a flight from London Heathrow to Peking followed by seven nightsat the 4-star Xiyuan Hotel ideally located for making both independent and organised excur-sions to the Great Wall, Ming Tombs. Summer Palace, Forbidden City and Peking Zoo. You may also elect to visit China's ancient capital, Xian, to see the Terracotta Warriors.

Itinerary in Brief Day 1 Depart Heathrowbynon-stopflightto Peking. Day 2 Arrive Peking and transfer to the Xiyuan Hotel for a stay of seven nights. Days 3 - 8 At leisure in Peking with a wide choice of local sightseeing available. Optional excursion to Xian to see the Terracotta Warriors.
Day 9 Depart Peking arriving London Heathrow

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NEWS -

Meat safety report 'suppressed'

An unpublished report on Britain's meat industry gave a warning a year ago that poor hygiene was putting the public at increasing risk of infection from E. coli — the bacterium which recently claimed 20 lives in Scotland.

The report was commissioned by the Meat Hygiene Service, an agency of the Ministry of Agriculture. Publication was suppressed after the authors refused to tone down criticisms contained in the draft version...

£175 tax free pension is Tory target

■ John Major held out the prospect of a tax-free pension of £175 a week for the next generation when he unveiled plans for the biggest overhaul in state pensions for 50 years. The Prime Minister said that everyone would have their own pension scheme to be built up over a working lifetime Pages 1, 8, 9

Princess's logo

The independent streak of Diana. Princess of Wales, has now extended to designing her own logo which distances her still further from the rest of the Royal . Pages 1, 7 Family.

Attlee conversion

The grandson of Clement Attlee, the post-war Labour Prime Minister, is to join the Conservatives in the House of Lords Page I Court fee challenge

The Lord Chancellor was accused of acting outside his powers in a test challenge over the hefty increases in court "entrance" fees he has introduced...

Penalty award

Danny Baker, a radio presenter who lambasted a referee over a FA Cup penalty decision, was sacked by the BBC, and the referee will no longer officiate during a Premiership match between the same two sidesPage 3

Cloning defence

The creation of human clones might bring benefits to mankind and should not be outlawed, the chairman of the authority set up to regulate embryo experiments .. Page 4

Cruising home

One of the last groups of expatriate civil servants in Hong Kong will invoke a final privilege from the empire when they set sail for home today Page 5

Cancer breakthrough

Scientists in Scotland have discovered why the cells in tumours go on multiplying out of .. Page 6

Holy Loch alert

Surveys have shown that Holy Loch in Scotland is contaminated with dangerously high levels of toxic waste and littered with junk after the closure of the US Navy's nuclear submarine base. Page II

Albania fighting

The state of emergency tightened in Albania, as fighting appeared to intensify in the south and the Government rejected all offers of foreign mediation.....Pages 12, 13 **Swiss offer**

The Swiss Government has offered to use about £3 billion of Switzerland's gold reserves for a "solidarity foundation" for victims of genocide and catastrophe worldwide. Page 14

Republican disarray

The Senate's rejection of the cornerstone of the Republican congressional agenda - the proposal to force the Government to balance its budget - has left the party in disarray Page 15 Financial star

Macaulay Culkin, now 16, has been granted access to his \$7 million (£4.3 million) fortune so that he can attempt to restore the

imbalance child-star fame

brought to his life...... Page 15

Bring on turtle doves for England

■ The kiwi is the emblem of New Zealand and the bald eagle symbolises the soaring power of the United States but what are their counterparts in Britain? The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds proposes the Scottish crossbill for Scotland, the turtle dove for England, the red kite for Wales and the black guillemot for Northern Ireland... .Page II



Spring was on the ground at Kew Gardens yesterday when two-year-olds James Nicholls and Alice Pinhey admired the crocuses

Tobacco: BAT Industries has dramatically softened its line on the prospects for a settlement on tobacco litigationPage 25

Lonrho: Dieter Bock, the German investor, is severing all links with Lonrho to become a director and shareholder of TrizecHahn, one of the largest property companies in North AmericaPage 25

Insurance: Life companies and investment managers have warmly welcomed proposals to privatise pensions, saying the move could boost their annual premium income by hundreds of billions of pounds every yearPage 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 2.4 to 4360.1. Sterling fell from 98.5 to 98.1, falling from \$1.6170 to 1.6100

Football: Stan Collymore, Liverpool's £8 million forward, is likely to be left out of the team for the European Cup Winners' Cup, firstleg tie with SK Brann in Norway tonight.

Rugby union: Arwel Thomas, the Wales stand-off half, will not be fit for the match against England because of a knee injury. Wales name their squad today Page 45 Cricket: England will arrive home from New Zealand, the leadership more secure and the team more settled than it has been in

vears ...

Motor racing: Damon Hill said he was hoping to drive at the top level for several more years but would be unable to offer a real defence of

ARTS Best films: Tom Cruise is all heart as a sports agent in Jerry Maguire, written and directed by Cameron

Crowe with echoes of the old Hollywood fables.. Best videos: New out this week is Stealing Beauty, Bernardo Bertolucci's charming fable of blossoming sexuality starring Liv Tyler; plus the cult 1967 television series.

The Monkees Page 36 Roaring Fortles: Kurt Weill's 1941 Broadway smash Lady in the Dark opens on Tuesday at the National Theatre. Can director Francesca Zambelli make the musical's wit work today?.....Page 37

Bitter and sweet: Romance, Romance is the name of a pair of oneact musicals based on cynical short

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES ■ POP

Caitlin Moran reveals the real story behind the success of the Spice Girls

■ INTERVIEW Valerie Grove meets the distinguished actress Claire Bloom

CONTRACTOR OF THE PERSON OF TH

an IRA target, plus thoughts on Michael Heseltine.... SOUTH DESIGNATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE

cause his joints can no longer take

Everyone's invited: Robert Shepherd traces the road to new Labour. and Russell Celyn Jones on Tibor Fischer's new novel Page 38 He amused her: Roy Strong on Queen Victoria's Prince Consort, and Roger Scuton on the philoso-

phy of Peter Abelard Page 39

Back to France: British holidaymakers who shunned France because of a poor exchange rate are returning in force - and discovering new areas

ations today with two Boeing 757 flights to Lanzarote... LOTTER HUNRIERS

The McAlpine memoirs: Spending Christmas with Margaret Thatcher at Chequers; the day I became

Dr Thomas Stuttaford: Willie Carson has retired from racing be-

the strain, but osteoarthritis is not confined to sportsmen...... Page 16

Take-off: Britain's newest holiday airline, Flying Colours, starts oper-

7, 12, 20, 24, 28, 43. Bonus 45. the estimated £3,900,000

TYLSTNGS

Preview: There is no shortage of remedies for Britain's weight problem. Horizon (BBC2, 9pm). Review: Lynne Truss on a Hong Kong documentary...

E COPPLICA

The pension plan Peter Lilley's pension proposals

have brought a gust of fresh air into the stale, smoky atmosphere of pre-election politics Page 9

Swiss atonement

President Koller's proposals bring home to the Swiss, for the first time that the Alps do not shield them from world opinion........... Page 9

The dream terrine

Man is the animal that cooks. And good cooking has been an art since the Stone Age. In the Clone Age it has also become a science at the crossing edge Page 9 BAT to conside settlin! lawsuit

in US

COLUMNS WILLIAM REES-MOGG

If you are not prepared to be a real father, you should not father the child; if you are not prepared to be a real mother, you should not be come pregnant.....

PETER RIDDELL

Labour's reaction to the pension plan) was a depressing example of knee jerk opposition politics at its . worst. Several of its claims were either wrong or alarmist Page 9 JOHN BRYANT

"If you think I look in good shape, you should have seen me when I was 92," said Everett Hosack, who won three gold medals in Birmingham. "I was as fit as a fiddle up to 92 but now the germs are circling round my waggon"..... Page 46.

OBTLAMES

Captain A. J. Baker Cresswell destroyer commander. Lord Kinnaird, 13th Lord; Dr Guy Wigley, GLC medical adviser Page 21

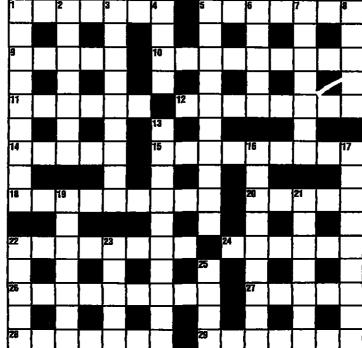
EFFERS

Devolution; Bishop's prayer for a Labour victory: Nato expansion; David Evans's gaffe......Page 19

THE PAPERS ...

If M Chirac thought it was possible to halt the progress of justice, he is wrong. The higher magistrates council report shows that the number of judges who are determined to win and to defend their independence is constantly increasing — Le Monde

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,420

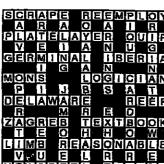


- **ACROSS** I Rapture when first of horses comes in producing share of a large sum (7).
- 5 Takes risks on business volumes 9 King I held to be a hopeless case
- 10 To give allure to a girl, some make-up is needed (9).
- 12 Criminal proposal to secure objective (8). 14 Contract's in the bag (5).

11 Fat cat finally gets permit (6).

- 15 Damned bad dictionary gone into by people (3-6).
- 18 Such a picture framed only occasionally? (4-5). 20 Deal with mass hysteria caused
- by witches here (5). 22 Royal servant speaking for the defence (8). 24 Daughter less polished as artist

Solution to Puzzle No 20,419



- 27 Concealing origin of odour, part of body given a nice smell (5). 28 Technique for one type of fiction

26 One new item of furniture app

ears to get in the way (9).

29 Action to recover point by football team in return (7).

- Difficulty getting clothes over belly (5,4).
- 2 Article representing lunar type of eclipse (7).
- Soldier captures enemy leader in the flesh (9). 4 Side with slight advantage (4).
- Dismayed as man gets killed in action (4-6).
- 6 Made to capture rook, but one can mate with the queen (5). 7 Taken to task about secret (7).
- 8 Absolute monarch succeeding femałe (5), 13 Hear wild animal d go free from
- circus (10). 16 Wrongdoer's crimes disturbed social worker (9).
- 17 Am created free, but have to set limits (9). 9 Prophet from a church in African COUNTRY (7).
- Mean to get the information (3-4). 22 Falstaff's crony, with hollow legs? (51.
- 23 Name many held in Jerusalem? 25 A lot of cows belonging to another dairy (4).

UK Weather- All regions 0336 444 910 IIX Roads - All reg 0336 401 410 0336 401 746 0336 401 747 0336 401 748

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

FORECAST

will cross southern Britain. Late in the day weather fronts will approach the northwest of Scotland. Many places in England and Wales will have a clear frosty start, perhaps only Kent and other southeastern

counties will be trost free. During the

General: a ridge of high pressure

day it will be dry and bright with lengthy sunny periods. Most places in Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a bright day after a clear frosty start. In central and east Scotland and Northern Ireland there will be much sunshine. North-

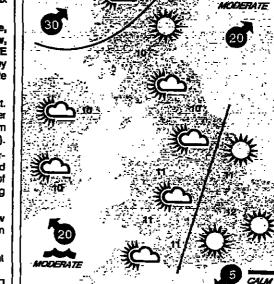
Wales, NW England, Lake District,

land: frosty, then sunny and dry. Winds light, west or southwest. Max

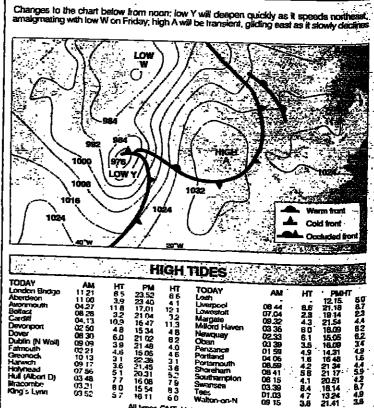
☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney: Irosty start, sunny periods, dry by day. Winds moderate or fresh southwest. Max 10C (50F). Argyll, N Ireland: frosty start.

NW Scotland: bright, sunny Intervals, isolated showers then dry. Cloud increasing in afternoon, outbreaks of rain later. Winds fresh or strong southwest. Mild. Max 9C (48F).

isle of Man, Central N, NE Engfrost. Cloudier, windier in far north.



MODERATE Sunny intervals Cloudy **Drizzle** Overcasi Rain Sunny Showers Sleet and sunny showers 🛖 Lightning. 🥰 Hail Snow: (mph) & direction



New moon March 9

HOURS OF DARKNESS ondon 5 50 pm to 6 33 am Bristol 5,58 pm to 6 42 am Stabburgh 5.58 pm to 6 49 pm

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All times GMT Heights in metres

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west Scotland and Shetland will have

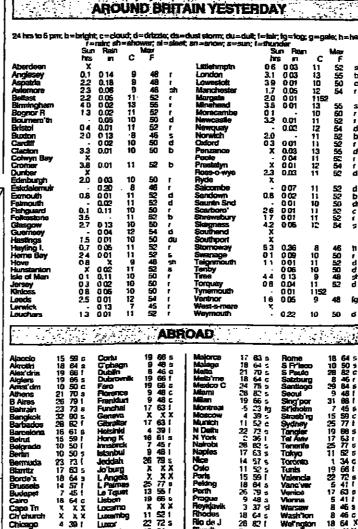
a few showers. Western areas will become increasingly cloudy. □ London, SE England, E Anglia Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midjands, Channel isles, SW England, S Wales. N

Sunny periods then clouding over from west. Winds freshening from southwest later. Mild, Max 10C (50F).

☐ Shetland: bright or sunny, a tew

showers. Winds freshening from southwest. Mild. Max 9C (48F).

 \square Outlook: dry, sunny, overnight



SUPPORT RECYCLING

INSIDE

* MARCH 6 1997

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Tom Cruise makes his bid for an Oscar **PAGES 35-37**



ANTIQUES

Ten years of the Maastricht Fine Art Fair **PAGES 40, 41**



*TIMES

SPORT

Hill keeps eyes on the road ahead **PAGES 43-48** **TELEVISION AND RADIO PAGES** 46, 47

BAT to consider settling lawsuits

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

in US

BAT Industries is ready to consider a possible settlement of the multimillion-dollar tobacco lawsuits it faces in

Martin Broughton, chief ex-ecutive, said: The on-going cost in legal terms and the impact on the share price is such that we think it sensible and appropriate to evaluate a settlement." He put the legal costs at \$100 million in 1996. saying that these could rise in the next two years.

A sensible settlement would be one that covered all current and future claims and was approved by Congress and the White House, he said.

BAT also appears to have altered its stance on a possible demerger of its tobacco and financial services interests.

Lord Cairns, chairman, said: "We are not wedded to the structure we have at the moment because it is the structure we have inherited. We have an open mind. If the results are better for the shareholders and move the business forward, we will do it."

Some analysts had hoped BAT would announce yesterday that it was seeking an industry-wide settlement of anti-smoking litigation after a Mr Broughton said he

would be willing to consider proposals for a settlement to cut off the possibility of any future claims, but he did not intend to set out terms for BAT or for the industry as a whole.

BAT shares fell 192 p to 530p. which analysts blamed on profit-taking and City disappointment over year-end profits. Pre-tax profit for the 12 months to December was £2.495 billion (£2.384 billion). This included a charge of £160 million as provision for the costs of environmental claims in the US against Eagle Star, one of BAT's insurance companies.

The underlying profit from continuing operations in-creased 7 per cent. Lord Cairns said it had been a difficult year for the insurance business and overseas earnings had been affected by the strength of sterling to the tune of £30 million. Earnings per share grew 2 per cent to 48.6p. The dividend is up 2p to 26p. BAT's tobacco businesses

produced a 7 per cent overall improvement in local currency, with trading profit rising to £1.6 billion. Financial services grew by an underlying 8 per

cent to £1.2 billion. Lord Cairns declined to comment on speculation that BAT had tried to tempt Commercial Union, the composite insurer, into a merger with Allied Dumbar and Eagle Star.

BAT is concerned that continuing frugation has kept down the share price. Analysts believe that the stock could be worth 700p if a settlement

Mr Broughton said: "The on-going cost in legal terms and the impact on the share price is such that we think it sensible and appropriate to evaluate a settlement."

Pennington, page 27

ONE of the City's most successful

stockbrokers could be called to give evidence in connection with a A\$600

million (£290 million) share deal on the

Robert Mapstone, former co-head of

equities at Nomura International in

London, initiated the arbitrage trade.

which triggered an international

The Australian Securities Commis-

sion (ASC) is taking Nomura to court

for alleged market manipulation. It

alleges that Nomura engaged in "mis-

leading and deceptive conduct, and has accused Nomura of "wash trad-

g" - trading in securities in which it

Australian Stock Exchange.

investigation.



THURSDAY MARCH 6 1997

Lord Cairns, chairman, said it had been a difficult year for the insurance business and overseas earnings had been affected by the strength of sterling to the tune of £30 million

Life firms welcome pensions proposals

By Marianne Curphey, insurance correspondent

LIFE companies and investment managers have welcomed proposals to privatise pensions, saying the move could boost their annual premium income by hundreds of billions of pounds

ever, tempered by warnings that no company would be willing to run a new scheme unless products were simple and cheap to administer.

Privatised pensions are likely to be run by a select group of preferred providers approved and regulated by the Personal Investment Authority (PIA).

Competition for inclusion will be fierce in an industry that is cut-throat, and many casualties are expected. Total pension provision in the UK is already worth £600 billion. Unsuccessful companies might include small life insurers with high expense ratios.

The beneficiaries of a lowcost, mass-market product will be big mutual life companies, unit trust and fund

managers and direct insurance companies, all of which will be able to cope with administering tens of thousands of policy documents with minimum expense. Standard Life, one of Eu-

rope's largest insurers, could ders for business. Andrew Black, marketing manager, said: "There will be big winners and big losers, and the losers are likely to disappear in an industry which is already consolidating."

Andrew Warwick-Thomp-

son, of Bacon & Woodrow, who tracks the performance of pension providers, said: "The market will be worth many billions, and the big fund managers will be serious about breaking into the market." He predicts powerful fund managers and unit trust providers such as Schroders, Mercury Asset Management and Gartmore will in future peach market share from tra-

ditional life companies. Clive Boothman, director of

Schroder Unit Trusts, said: "We are certainly interested in providing investment links for ers which have high costs." pensions. Companies will

need a very efficient administrative system to deal with tens of thousands of small amounts of money from employees and lovers. The onus is on the Government to make products simple, so that costs can be kept down to a 1 per cent management fee."

New entrants selling pensions by telephone also see the proposals as an opportunity. Tony Wood, marketing director of Virgin Direct, described the proposals as "very excit-ing". He said: "This is a great opportunity, but also a major responsibility. Liberty International Pen-

sions, which has a new direct pension product, voiced concerns over how the Government scheme would be regulated. Marc Hommel. director, said: "Policing the scheme will be very important. This is a challenge and an opportunity for the industry and presents a threat to some of the traditional provid-The Confederation of Brit-

ish Industry said its review, to be concluded by the autumn, would be looking at the main alternative proposals for e, incluaing inc by the Government. The TUC and the GMB

union gave warning that a new pensions scandal could be imminent John Monks, TUC General Secretary, said: "The greatest financial scandal of modern times has been the mis-selling of personal pen-sions and the failure of the guilty companies to provide prompt and full compensation. Yet the Government wants to reward them with more business and more opportunities to rip off customers."

E175-per-week plan, page 1 Details, page 8 Peter Riddell, page 8 Chilean model, page 9 Pennington, page 27 Graham Searjeant, page 29

Ex-Barings chief sues for £350,000

By ROBERT MILLER, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER head of corporate finance of ING Barings is suing his previous employer for a bonus payment worth at least £350,000.

A High Court writ lodged in London by Richard Orders, who joined Barings in September 1976, said he took up an appointment as head of corporate finance for the Asia region in April 1994 and was relocated to Hong Kong. After the two years ago and its subsequent rescue by ING, of The Netherlands, Mr Orders kept

his position. In his writ, lodged by Cameron Markby Hewitt, the City law firm, Mr Orders said he had received a letter on March 17, 1995, thanking him for his contribution and informing him that he had been awarded

a £175,000 bonus. Mr Orders's writ alleges that in December 1995, without warning, he was told that David Hudson had been appointed to replace him and that he should return to London as director of the UK/European corporate finance department. However, it became appar-

ent that a key piece of business from the Swire Pacific Group would not be obtained unless Mr Orders was involved. The writ says that it was agreed that the former ING Barings Kong until no later than March 1996 and that he would be paid a cash bonus of £350,000. Further, he was told by letter he would be paid a cash bonus of 10 per cent of revenues earned from various deals including Swire Pacific and Cable and Wireless, Mr Orders resigned from Barings in July 1996.

Last year, Mary Walz, a former Barings executive, sued the bank unsuccessfully for an unpaid £500,000 bonus.

James Capel

Investment Management

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BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET PROKES

Tokyo close Yen 121,65

London close \$352.00 (\$359.80)

Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery group, is showing the strongest signs yet that it is looking to make a substantial acquisition, saying it could afford to spend £2 billion. Page 27, Tempus 28

Squeeze

BICC, the construction group, says the squeeze on overnment spending in monetary union has prolonged the construction slump. Page 30

Bock severs links with Lonrho

DIETER BOCK announced yesterday that he is ending his relationship with Lourbo to become a director and shareholder of TrizecHahn, one of the largest office building and shopping mall companies in North America.

Mr Bock has agreed to sell all of the assets of Advanta Management, his property company, in exchange for \$147 million of TrizecHahn voting shares, equivalent to a 4 per cent equity stake. He is to become vice-chairman of TrizecHahn and president of its European operations when he retires as non-executive director and deputy chairman of Lourho this month.

Peter Munk, chief executive of TrizecHahn, based in Toronto, said that he courted Mr Bock to help give TrizecHahn fast exposure to the European



Dieter Bock will offer his European property expertise

market. He said that Mr Bock has "five projects. . . which we could not possibly assemble on our own", and offers "total familiarity with the property market in Europe".

The Advanta portfolio includes Number 1 Poultry, the

commercial development in the City of London that occupies the site of the former

Mappin & Webb building

and the Taschenbergpalais,

the historic palace in Dresden

that was rebuilt after the

trate on shopping mall developments in Europe, said Mr Munk.

Hahn will initially concen-

TrizecHahn's goal, he said, is to become the "Barrick of the property industry," referring to TrizecHahn's control ling stake in Barrick, the second largest gold producer in the world. About \$1.2 billion has been set aside for European property projects.

Mr Bock stepped down as chief executive of Lonrho last year and sold his 18.3 per cent stake in the company to Anglo American Corp of South Africa. He no longer owns any Lonrho shares but has said that he might become a shareholder of Lonrho's African trading operations once they are spun off.

> Tempus, page 28 Into the sunset, page 29

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City star at heart of Nomura inquiry

By Jon Ashworth and Robert Miller

was both buyer and seller. The ASC, said to be under political pressure to improve a poor prosecution record, began proceedings in the Federal Court last week. The case is based on the events of March 29 last year, when Nomura unwound a large arbitrage position by allowing 12,844 March 1996 Share Price Index (SPI) futures

contracts to expire. It simultaneously ordered the sale of A\$600 million of The transaction was initiated by Mr Mapstone in London, and carried out by Duncan Moss, a Nomura trader in Hong King. The sell order triggered a 25-point fall in the stock market index. At the time, Mr Mapstone said the trades were "a normal piece of business", and said: "We do it in markets all around the world, but we always act within the rules."

There is no suggestion that Mr Mapstone profited improperly from the transaction. It occurred shortly before the benchmarking of Nomura's annual bonuses. The Bank of England, which has been kept informed of events, this week warned the market that bonus targets could encourage traders to take undue risks.

Mr Mapstone, who left Nomura last July is said to have taken an extended holiday in South Africa, and was

rughy player, he was recruited to shake-up Nomura's London equity division, but left after just two years following a disagreement over The former Nomura executive was regarded in City circles as "very

unavailable for comment. A keen

enjoyed handsome bonuses. The Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the watchdog for brokers and futures dealers in the UK, is understood to be keeping a watching brief, and has supplied detailed information

successful", and as such would have

Nomura declined to comment.

Loss-making T&N to cut

T&N, the UK automotive components company, yesterday announced 1,400 job cuts worldwide as it reported year-end losses of £388 million before tax for 1996.

The losses, which compared with profits of £120 million in 1995, arise from a £515 million provision and insurance premium aimed at ring-fencing future liability to asbestos injury claims.

The job losses, mainly in

continental Europe, will cost £25 million and are at the centre of a a further restructuring at T&N, which is suffer-ing from weakness in the European vehicle markets. Competitive pressures in

piston and friction products cut T&N's operating margins from II per cent to 9 per cent last year. Before exceptional charges and asbestos provisions, operating profit from continuing businesses fell £31 million to £173 million. The company blamed half of the decline on destocking and redundancy costs.

T&N may be on the verge of securing a strategic position in the world's piston market



Sir Colin Hope, T&N chairman, considering a joint venture with a German firm

following a German industrial group's purchase of a 24.9 per cent stake in Kolbenschmidt, the piston-maker courted by T&N, which sees Kolbenschmidt as the key to its bid for leadership in pis-

The share purchase by Rheinmetall was treated as positive yesterday by T&N's management, which is expecting a court ruling soon that

will permit it to exercise an option over a separate 24.9 per cent stake in Kolbenschmidt. Sir Colin Hope, chairman of T&N, said that Rheinmetall

was one of the companies that T&N had been talking to in a bid to resolve the problem over the future of Kolbenschmidt. He said that he would not exclude a joint Rheinmetall

that it was seeking a majority

interest in Kolbenschmidt. T&N's 1996 losses wiped out distributable reserves and the company has effected a capital reduction to eliminate the deficit on its profit and loss account. As a result, T&N will pay a special interim dividend p in May in lieu of the 1996 final dividend.

Houses gain 0.5% in **February**

HOUSE prices recovered from the slight downturn in January to give a seasonally adjusted rise of 0.5 per cent last month, according to the Halifax Building Society. The Halifax said that the

latest figure confirmed that the January fall was a one-off adjustment after big rises in the last quarter of 1996.

basis, house price inflation has slowed from 7.1 per cent to 6.8 per cent. With the quarter ly trend showing L7 per cent growth in prices, Halifax said, the housing market was re-covering at a moderate pace and was within its end-of-year forecast of 7 per cent.

New houses fetch £71,757 on than existing homes. However, price rises here continue quarterly trend of 0.8 per cent.

CWS denial exerts more pressure on Lanica Trust

By Alasdair Murray

PRESSURE mounted Lanica Trust to clarify its position to the Stock Exchange after the Co-operative Whole-sale Society denied it was in talks with the investment company about the sale of some of

The CWS made the statement through the Stock Exchange after a board meeting. The co-operative said that it had not entered into discussions with Lanica and that it has "no intention of doing so". Lanica is locked in talks

However, on an annual

Prices for first-time buyers rose sharply, by 2.1 per cent, offsetting a 2 per cent fall in January. First-time buyers are now paying £48,168, on average, 5 per cent up on a year ago, against a £66.612 seasonally adjusted price for all houses.

average, nearly £6,000 more to lag the main market, with figures showing an annual rise of 5.8 per cent and a operations. In a poll of 20 with the Stock Exchange over market rumours about possible acquisitions, which led to a jump in its share price from 150p in October to £19.50 when the shares were suspended a

month ago.
With no deals imminent at Lanica, the shares are likely to plummet when the company is relisted, although a date for a return to the market has yet to be finalised. Lanica's only business asset is a specialised mail order business valued substanially below the company's £100 million market capitalisation.

The jump in the share price began after Andrew Regan chief executive, took over New Guernsey Securities Trust, an offshore investment trust. Mr Regan said he was auning to turn the trust, which was renamed as Lanica, into an industrial holding company.

Market rumours linked Lanica with a reverse takeover by Littlewoods' retail businesses - which Littlewoods later denied — as well as with CWS

Bank signals 6% rate

By Janet Bush, economics editor

THE Bank of England signalled that base rates remain at 6 per cent after yesterday's monetary meeting between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of

the Bank. There was little surprise when the Bank dealt at unchanged rates in its normal daily money market

economists by Reuters earlier this week, not one had expect-

ed base rates to be raised. The Bank has been pressing for base rate to be increased by quarter point for some months, arguing that, without this move, the Government

will miss its inflation target in two years' time. The Chancellor has made it equally clear that he sees no need for a rise in rates given

sterling's strength and a run of excellent figures for costs and prices in industry.

The news that rates were left unchanged had little impact on the markets, although the pound dropped back from Monday's peaks on profit-

Sterling's effective index. against a basket of currencies finished at 98.1 compared with 98.5 on Monday.

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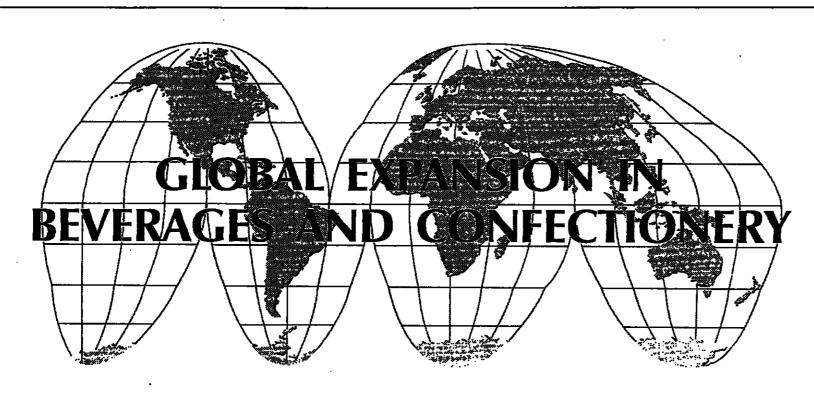
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80MA



A STRONG YEAR OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

"Cadbury Schweppes produced record turnover, profits, margins and earnings and generated £137m free cash in 1996 against a background of organic expansion and acquisition.

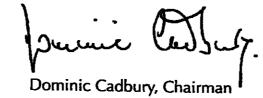
1996	RESULTS		
•	1996 £m	1995 £m	% Change
Sales	5,115	4,776	+ 7
Trading Profit	671	600	+12
Pre-Tax Profit	592	511	+16
Underlying Free Cash Flow	137	100	+37
	Pence	Pence	
Earnings per Share (FRS 3)	34.1	31.3	+ 9
Underlying EPS [*]	34.1	29.9	+14
Dividend per Share	17.0	16.0	+ 6

A final dividend of 11.8p is proposed which, with the interim of 5.2p already paid, makes a total of 17p per share for the year. *Excluding disposal profits in 1995 of £15 million (£14 million after tax).

We are a truly global business operating in growth markets all around the world. In the US, Dr Pepper continues to outperform the soft drinks market and it is being launched internationally into new markets such as Mexico, Australia and Russia.

1996 saw outstanding performances by our core confectionery companies with product innovation the key to growth in most of our major markets.

At this early stage in the year we are confident of further growth and success in 1997 despite the impact of the stronger pound. 99





MANAGEMENT PROVEN IN THE MARKETPLACE

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Former regulator to join board of CWC

SIR BRYAN CARSBERG, the former Director-General of Fair Trading and the first Director-General of Communications, is joining the board of Cable and Wireless Communications (CWC), one of British Telecom's main competitors, as a non-executive director. Sir Bryan, 58, now secretary-general of the International Accounting Standards Committee, becomes one of three non-executive directors. The others are Valerie Gooding, managing director of Bupa, and John Keenan, chief executive of International Distillers & Vinters and a director of Grand Metropolitan.

C&W will own about about 53 per cent of CWC, which will embrace Nynex and Bell CableMedia. Shareholders of Nynex and Bell CableMedia will be asked to swap their shares for shares in CWC. The flotation, expected to value the group at about £5 billion, is scheduled for late spring.

BT charges attacked

THE majority of domestic telephone users would still be better off switching from BT, in spite of its discount schemes, according to the Consumers' Association. In a report out todayit says that BT was the most expensive option and users could make up to 20 per cent savings with other companies. In its magazine Which?, the association said that it had analysed hundreds of millions of BT calls and samples of itemised billing from Telewest, the cable company. Which? said 95 per cent of people who had left BT did not regret the move.

Revenue 'under cloud

A QUARTER of finance directors have lost faith in the Inland Revenue in the wake of the recent trial of Michael Allcock, the tax investigator jailed for taking bribes, according to a survey by Accountancy Age and Reed Accountancy Personnel. The 200 finance chiefs said the affair was a "poor reflection of the Revenue's management control". The survey found a quarter also believed Allcock was "unlikely to be an isolated incident". However, 54 per cent of those polled said that Allcock had not weakened their faith in the system.

Compass stake cut

ACCOR, the French hotels company, is cutting its stake in Compass Group, the UK catering company, to 10 per cent from 21.5 per cent. Accor acquired the shares after it sold Eurest, a catering business, to Compass in September 1995. It has agreed not to sell further shares for at least 12 months. Compass shares fell 274 p to 715p on news of the disposal. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, is coordinating the placing of shares with institutional investors.

Raids by City police

CITY OF LONDON Police have raided II homes in London in a two-day operation. The early morning raids, concluded yesterday, were conducted by members of the City police's financial investigation unit. Search warrants were obtained under the Drug Trafficking Act in relation to alleged money laundering offences. One man has been detained for questioning and papers and files relating to financial matters and deals were seized in the raids. Further arrests are expected.

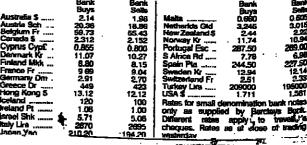
Boost for consultancy

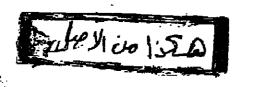
ANDERSEN CONSULTING, the management and tech nology consultancy, lifted net revenues 26 per cent to \$5.3 billion, it reported yesterday. The company, which lists more than half the Fortune Global 500 companies as clients, said a business region that embraces Europe, the Middle East, Africa and India lifted revenues 32 per cent to \$1.9 billion. Asia/Pacific revenues rose 21 per cent to \$509 million while the Americas rose 22 per cent to \$2.9 billion.

Warning by Ronson

RONSON, the lighters and accessories producer, gave warning that it expects to incur a £1 million pre-tax loss for 1996, against a profit of £4.02 million in 1995. It said it had only succeeded in claiming 60 per cent of the damages ratioup last year when one of its factories was damaged by fire. It also named Laurie Todd as its finance director, replacing David Moffat who resigned in November. Mr Todd was formerly finance director at Innovations Group.

TOURIST RATES





□ NEVER mind pensions ~

there is only one question worry-

century. Computer experts, how-

ever, are confident they can cope

- it will just have to wait until

they have sorted out the euro.

Literally true; there is more

money being spent in continental

Europe on preparing computers

for the common currency than

Because of the inability of old

computers to cope with the change to a year with a 2 in front

of it, software houses are having

to go through all programs that

could present a problem and edit

out and correct every reference to

the date. This is the equivalent of

reading through a book for every

mention of the word "horse";

miss one, and the book is unreadable.

Some estimates say banks alone could lose a tenth of their

annual profits to the cost of the

millennium overhaul. Last week

NatWest said that information

for the millennium.

certs money

IURSDAY MARCH

INESS ROUNDUP

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Countdown to the millennium

☐ Good job prospects in computer software ☐ The drawbacks of money-purchase plans ☐ BAT must eventually make its move

ing the truly long sighted. Which arrives first, the simultaneous crash of every computer system on the planet come the year 2000, or that huge, final asteroid? Pessimists say there is no technology budgets were run-ning £100 million a year ahead; a longer enough time to defuse the Millennium Bomb, which will big organisation could have as throw the world back to the age of barter at the end of the

many as 10,000 programs within its IT to be checked. The situation is made worse because many of the old programs are written in an outdated language, Cobol. This has thrown up some quirks: sud-denly enhanced job prospects for retired computer programmers, while the problem in Germany is less acute because the language had been in use east of the Berlin

Job prospects for all computer programmers, and software firms such as CMG and Logica are pretty good too, because of this, the euro and the explosion in telecoms, a fact reflected in share prices. The problem for the industry, because no one knows what is needed, will be pricing — fixed-cost contracts could prove expensive mistakes, but those keen for the work may opt for them anyway.

Another difficulty is assigning the blame, if the system is tested

and not all those horses have been edited out. It crashes and they have to start again. Who pays extra, the original computer maker, the owner or the software house doing the work? This has required indemnity clauses limiting liability in contracts.
Where there is insurance, there are lawyers. If a career in software does not appeal to an ambitious graduate, one as a lawyer specialising in IT work

could be even better. Typical that lawyers would find some way of profiting from the Millennium Bomb. They'll probably be the only ones to survive the asteroid impact too.

The pensions timebomb

TALKING of pensions and grim warnings, Dresdner Klein-wort Benson has chosen a good day to point to what could be the next mis-selling scandal, the growing switch to money-pur-chase plans or defined contribuPENNINGTON



tion pensions. The shift from traditional final-salary schemes, whereby employers promise to pay an eventual fixed proportion of employees' salaries, to such plans has been accelerating over the past five years, and it is making many observers uneasy. In a traditional pension, any shortfall in the sum promised must be made up by employers, which leaves their risk un-

capped. By contrast, money-purchase plans throw the responsibility firmly on the emplayee. If the investment performance of his or her pension fails to keep pace, then hard luck All very well in these times of

BRITISH Biotech, the bio-

cine (Eric Reguly writes).

the United States.

British Biotech reported a pre-tax loss of £1.5 million in

the three months to January

31, raising the nine-month

loss to £17.6 million, against

a £15 million loss previously.

self-reliance, but large numbers of people may not be competent to look after their own pensions, patronising though it may seem to suggest it. This is why finalsalary schemes have always put the onus on their employers. Three facts. Firms running

joyed pensions holidays in recent years, but these are coming to an end and contributions are starting to climb again. Secondly, a pensions industry survey shows the average employer chipping in 5.6 per cent of pensionable earnings to money-purchase schemes and 13.3 per cent to the traditional kind. Clearly, the new schemes are the cheaper option. Finally, the Association of Consulting Actuaries says that after 25 years, members of money-purchase schemes can expect only half the benefits of a final-salary pensioner.

And one possible future: a third of pensioners with no private means, relying on neg-ligible state benefits or begging to get along. Another third with less than they had expected, and the final third with enough — before taxes. Makes you glad to be alive, doesn't it?

Interpreting the smoke signals

traditional schemes have en-☐ THERE were some confusing smoke signals rising from BAT Industries yesterday. Was the group about to split in two, or settle with the health authorities in the US? Either would be good for a couple of quid on the share price, but BAT's shares ended

the day lower.

BAT has made it clear for a while that a once-and-for-all settlement with the various US state litigants, and one requiring legislation, would be welcomed at the right price. But it is not for the tobacco industry to take the initiative on such a deal. Martin Broughton, the chief executive, was prepared to countenance a deal in 12 to 18 months, though, which shows some ontimism. As to demerger, Hanson and

Thorn EMI have shown that this is not enough on its own. Farmers, the US insurer, may be within a whisker of outstripping US tobacco as the main profit earner, but prospects for financial services in the UK are mixed. Any split is likely to be linked with a joint venture or other deal with one of the big composite insurers, say. For now, BAT shares still sell on ten times' this year's earnings. Some sort of move on either front will come eventually, and when it does, look for an immediate rerating.

Dropping the pilot

☐ TAKEOVER battles between investment trusts, although horribly technical for most mortals, throw up the odd bit of fun. The independent directors of Pilot, under £47 million assault from Colin McLean's Undervalued Assets Trust, are furious that the Bank of England Pension Fund has rushed to accept the offer. Mr McLean is widely expected to break up the underperforming fund if he succeeds, which will put a few strategic stakes in small companies on the market and a few heads on the block. So much for the Bank's views on long-term investment. Remember: don't do as I do, do as I say.

Cadbury Schweppes ready to spend £2bn

CADBURY SCHWEPPES, the confectionery and soft ered any to have reached the height of earnings potential. Cadbury shares rose 19p to drinks group, yesterday delivered the strongest signs yet that it is looking to make a substantial acquisition, saying it could afford to spend £2 529p yesterday. John Sunderland, chief executive, said the company was committed to billion if an opportunity arose.

The company, which last month received £623 million enhancing shareholder value. He said the company was aligning management's interafter selling its stake in its ests more closely with sharejoint distribution venture to

likely to bolster its confectionshareholder return. ery arm with the new money. While he refused to say that It returned a 13 per cent rise its past share issues had in pre-tax profit to £592 million detracted from shareholder for 1996, with cashflow rising 10 value, he agreed that the per cent to £869 million. It said company now "acknowledged it had a strong balance sheet the cost of equity capital". If it and was prepared to divest did agree a big acquisition, it

other businesses if it considwould only issue more shares as a last resort.

Dominic Cadbury, chairman, said: "We have for quite a long time now focused on earnings per share as our criterion by which we judge ourselves. We're saying there is a more appropriate measure." Earnings rose 14 per cent on an underlying basis, to 34.lp. The total dividend is holders by switching to an incentive plan based on total increased 6 per cent to 17p a share. A final II.8p is due on May 23.

Cadbury attributed the results to strong performances from both confectionery and soft drinks, after a full year's results from Dr Pepper and 7-Up against a ten-month contribution last time. It played down fears that its soft drinks in the US was suffering from renewed attacks from Coke and Pepsi. Dr Pepper achieved volume growth of 4 per cent. in spite of the launch of Mr Pibb, Coke's equivalent to Dr

Pepper. 7-Up, which has been in decline, saw its market share slip fall to 1.9 per cent last year, and the company said that it had returned to growth in the past two months. The company also said that it was planning a relaunch of Dr Pepper, but ruled out any change of colour in the cans.

Tempus, page 28

Airtime sales fall Biotech seeks EU approval hits HTV shares for Zacutex

By Eric Reguly

technology company that hopes to evolve into a com-SHARES of HTV, the ITV company serving Wales and the West of England, fell 10p to mercial pharmaceuticals group, has applied for regulatory approval of Zacutex, 3502p yesterday after reportits acute pancreatitis mediing disappointing airtime sales. HTV blamed the down-If it is approved by the turn on advertisers, notably European Medicines Evaluphone companies, targeting ation Agency, which covers their marketing in London, at member states of the Eurothe expense of the regions. In pean Union, Zacutex will an effort to reverse the trend, it become British Biotech's has entered into a new confirst product on the market. tract with TSMS, the advertising sales house owned by United News & Media. United The company expects to launch the drug next year, it owns 29.9 per cent of HTV. is still undergoing trials in

Chris Rowlands, chief executive, said the new contract, unlike the previous one, sets performance targets for TSMS and penalties if it does not meet them. The goal is to raise HTV's share of the ITV companies' advertising reve-

nue to more than 6 per cent compared with 1996's level of 5.84 per cent.

The company reported pre-tax profits of £9.9 million in the year to the end of December, against £12.1 million in 1995, on turnover of £139.3 million, up 3.2 per cent. The latest figures include exceptional charges of £21 million, largely from the introduction of digital technology in HTV's studios. Operating profit before exceptional charges was £12.6 million (£12.5 million).

The biggest improvements came from Harvest Entertain-ment, its production and rights division, whose profits rose 24 per cent to £5.6 million. A 2.75p final, due May 30, lifts the total payout 11 per cent to

Salvesen's chairman attacks rebels

CHRISTIAN SALVESEN criticised rebel sharehold-ers led by Sir Gerald Elliot, its former chairman, who hope to thwart the company's plan to sell Aggreko, the power supply subsidiary, and return £150 million to shareholders (Ashley Potter writes).

Sir Alick Rankin, chair man, accused the rebels of attempting to hijack next week's vote on the payback and turn it into a vote of no confidence in the board. He said: "If Sir Gerald wishes to replace all or part of the current board,

he should use his stated support to do so by convening an EGM." Rebels claims to speak for shareholders who control 14 ner cent of the company.

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Coca-Cola, said it was more

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STOCK MARKET

Speculators switch on to Southern Electric shares

close tabs on Southern Electric in the belief that a bid for the last of the independent regional electricity companies will not be too far off.

The shares closed yesterday 13p dearer at 44912p, just a shade below their highest level of the past year, as a further 1.55 million shares changed hands - significant turnover in a market normally dealing in 10,000 shares at a time.

The speculators are reluctant to put a name to any of the potential suitors, although it is known there is no shortage among the numerous American power companies. At these levels, Southern carries a price tag of £2.2 billion. Speculation has intensified following last month's agreed bid for Yorkshire Electricity by two US power companies. The rest of the equity mar-

ket closed at another new high after a near 30-point turnaround with the help of another positive start to trading on Wall Street. Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Fed, was yesterday busily reassuring investors. He said that the equity market looked fairly valued if present forecasts of corporate earnings became reality. The FT-SE 100 index closed 2.4 higher at a record 4,360.1 as 809 million shares changed hands.

Compass Group, the contract caterer, fell 2712p to 715p after learning that its biggest shareholder was reducing its holding. Accor, the French hotels group, is cutting its 21.5 per cent stake to 10 per cent.

Brokers were keeping their ears to the ground last night. hoping for some positive news for Cable and Wireless out of Hong Kong. Word is something may be afoot at its 56 per cent-owned Hongkong Telecom subsidiary. The price closed 712p dearer at 50112p.

A downgrading Goldman Sachs, just a day before it publishes full-year results, left Glaxo Wellcome 21p down at £10.35.

Reuters fell 1512p to 644p on vague talk of a rights issue to help to finance a major acquisitting on almost El billion in cash. Earlier in the day a line 462,385 shares went through the market at 641p. Full-year figures from Cadbury Schweppes came in

towards the top end of expectations and the shares responded with a rise of 19p at 529p. The group was confident



John Sunderland, chief executive, and Dominic Cadbury of Cadbury Schweppes, saw shares make a 19p advance

about current trading pros-pects and hinted that it could afford to finance a major acquisition up to the tune of £2 billion. But Dominic Cadbury, chairman, warned that the strong pound could put a £21 million dent in profits.

Speculative buying continued to edge Pilkington higher. The price firmed Ip to 145p on turnover of 2.31 million

a change of shareholders. T&N has an option to acquire a 49.9 per cent stake. BAT Industries' full-year

pending the announcement of

figures came in bang in line with City expectations. The group was in upbeat mood with tobacco-related illness claims unlikely to affect performance. It refused to comment on reports it had talked

Sunderland Football Club is learning fast about the ways of the City. The price tumbled 3212p to 675p after Tuesday's home thrashing by Tottenham Hotspur, unchanged at 11212p. The 400,000 shares of Peter Reid, the manager, were worth £130,000 less. The shares have traded as high as 760p.

shares. It now stands 15p above its low. Brokers say it is vulnerable to a bid.

T&N touched 151p before ending the day 3p cheaper at 15612p after announcing plans to shed 2,500 jobs as part of a restructuring programme. At the same time, shares of Kolbenschmidt, the German pistons group, were suspended on the Frankfurt bourse

with Commercial Union, up 10p at 73lp, about a possible merger last year. BAT finished 1812p lower at 531p.

Shield Diagnostics put in a late spurt to finish 4412p higher on the day at 605p in heavy turnover of 777,751 shares in what is normally a 2,000-share market. City speculators are hoping for rich rewards from the group's di-



agnostic	c treatmen	nt f	or	the
early	detection	of	he	ari
disease.				

HTV Group fell 10p to in profits. A return to the black was good for Trace Computers, up 8p at 5912p, while further losses failed to rattle British Biotech, steady at

Micro Focus soared 8712p to Ell.12 on the back of reduced losses. Mackie International ral-

lied 1712p to 14812p. The shares fell sharply on Tuesday after the breakdown of talks that could have led to a bid. Pace Micro Technology

edged 412p higher at 118p still hoping to be awarded the contract to supply BSkyB with television decoder baxes. The share price has tumbled from 235p this month after two profit warnings.
A bid approach was good

news for Colleagues Group, 12p dearer at 8212p. It looks as if the executive directors are putting together an offer for the media company.

Metal Bulletin is becoming something of a cash cow these days with £12.5 million in the bank. Yesterday the price of the metals information publisher slipped 5p to £12.25 after announcing its tenth year of record profits. Rival publisher Emap, up 8p at 747p, holds 20 per cent of the shares.

A profits warning and the decision to suspend paying a dividend left Eadie Holdings 412p lower at 10p. Michael Green, chairman, and Peter Bromwich, a director, have resigned.

☐ GILT-EDGED: There was a further steepening of the yield curve as longer-dated issues suffered falls stretching to El. This followed claims from the futures pit that the launch of economic and monetary union had been delayed.

The June series of the long gilt fell £34 to £1111132 as the number of contracts completed reached 91,000. Treasury 8 per cent 2015 shed E2932 at £1043132, while Treasury S per cent 2000 was three ticks off at

□ NEW YORK: Wall Street put a positive spin on Alan Greenspan's remarks ahead of his congressional testimony, while the February employment report, out tomorrow, loomed large. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 38.10 points lower at 6,890.82.

S&P Composite
Tokyo: Nikkel Average ,
Hong Kong: Hang Seng 13410.76 (-39.32)
Amsterdam: EOE Index 755.23 (+1.83)
Sydney: AO 2433.0 (+0.9)
Frankfurt: 3364.99 (+44.33)
Singapore: 2192.53 (+3.09)
Brussels: General 12089.34 (+75.98)
Paris: 2566.19 (+14.50)
Zurich: SKA Gen 950.80 (+8.10)
London:
FT 30 2892_5 (+7.9)
FT 100 4360.1 (+2.4)
FT 100
FTSE 350 2156.5 (+2.1) FTSE Eurotrack 100 2166.43 (+12.17)
FTSE Eurotrack (00 2166.43 (+12.17)
FT All-Share 2128.32 (+1.94)
FT Non Financials 2174.25 (+0.31)
FT Fixed Interest 119.77 (Same)
FT Govt Secs 95.67 (-0.34)
Bargains 54087 SEAQ Volume 809.3m
I AIOO LA ANOR
US\$ 1.6100 (-0.0070) German Mark 2.7557 (-0.0086)
Frehance Index
Exchange Index
E:ECU
E-CT)2 1770

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

17.5		
Anglo-Weish	1064	- 5
		- 3
Aortech	1364:	
C&B Publishing	175	
Calidore Warrants	3	
Centrica (751:)	644	+ 4
Core Group	325	+ 115
Energy Group (525)	524	- 81:
Howle	30%	- 5
infobank inti	149	
Nord Anglo Eductri	165°:	- 2
Psd Group	28612	
Screen .	54	+ 5
TR Euro Gwth Wrts	571:	
Tea Plantations Inv	102	
Technoplast	106	+ 10%
VFG	415	

RPI 154.4 Jan (2.8%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX 153.9 Jan (3.1%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

MAJOR CHANGES

rises:	
Proteus Intl	73°ap (∸8°ap)
Shield Diag	605p (∸44¹ap)
DCS Group	288'2p (+18'2p)
Wistnhime R	
Danka Bs Sys	
Hanson	
Cadbury-Schw	
Bectrocompts	
Close Bros	
Arney	4861.p (-14p)
Capita Group	677 ap (+171ap)
Enterprise	625p (+14p)
Premier Famel:	493'ap (~11p)
Laporte	669p (+14 :p)
Charter	763p (+15p)
FALLS:	
Stat-Plus	2151z0 (-120)
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Assoc Br Ports	
Compass Gp	
Hozelock	
BAT	
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Chiroscience	
HTV Grown	

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Closing Prices Page 33

Stand Chart

BICC ..

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p)	BICC is not on a one-w
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p)	down: Railtrack, the ma
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Hope in German option appears to regard as friendly, notwithstand-

T&N is not an obvious candidate for a leading role in restructuring the automotive components industry. Its balance sheet is shot to ribbons - largely because of a massive provision for future asbestosis injury claims. Its margins have weakened because difficult markets and another round of redundancies

will cost the company some £25 million. But Sir Colin Hope and his T&N board refuse to lie down and, despite yesterday's glum results, they had something to smile about. Its game of "softly, softly, catchee monkey" with the German piston maker, Kolbenschmidt, could be about to pay off. The company's appeal against the German Cartel Office seems to have gone in its favour. Meanwhile, Rheinmetall, a German engineer with no piston interests, has acquired 25 per cent of Kolbenschmidt, a move that T&N ing the aggressive stance yesterday adopted Rheinmetall, which said it was seeking majority control of Kolbenschmidt.

A full takeover of Kolbenschmidt by Rheinmetall should pose no problems for German competition authorities but also makes little sense for the German buyer. whose business brings little synergy to the pistons company. A joint venture with T&N, however, would bring greater benefits.

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T&N is not looking cheap; the market worth of the company plus the net present value of the asbestos liabilities is 14 times estimates of this year's earnings. Clearly, there is hope value in these shares: T&N has climbed more than a few mountains. No one should be surprised if a rights issue accompanies exercise of the Kolbenschmidt option.

The virgin territories of Poland, China and Russia

620

Cadbury

JOHN SUNDERLAND. chief executive of Cadbury Schweppes, is at least making the right noises about

By singing from a politically correct hymnbook, he may have eliminated a few nagging doubts. Concerns about dilution have been calmed by a promise not to issue more shares except as a last resort.

The market has had its fill of Cadbury paper. The directors' pledge to stake their bonuses on shareholder value criteria - whatever that may be - sounds brave.

But all the jingoism in the

world cannot cure the com-

are also slow to bear fruit. making bellicose noises in the US, and Cadbury is Millions are being lost, and Cadbury does not expect standing in a free-fire zone. profits until 2000. Mr Pibb, the Coke missile The rise in the shares puts Cadbury on an average rating. Until there is more news, this looks generous for a company in such an unenviable position. **POPS LACK FIZZ**

designed to take Dr Pepper out of the market, has not yet reached its target - but the night is still young and Coke's advertising budget will go a long way.

pany's main headaches. Coke and Pepsi are still

It is the Schweppes part of the company, and not the Cadbury, that is causing concern. Confectionery is in good form: its share of the UK market is still solid.

540 520 Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar

BICC

BICC has profited more than most from the Government's privatisation programme. Successive waves of deregulation and self-offs have created a demand for BICC's capabilities in construction and cables

The latest example is rail privatisation. BICC is now the biggest rail infrastructure maintenance contractor after acquiring three former British Rail units. Business from Railtrack and franchise operators has created a BICC division with annual revenue of £250 million and profits of

DOLLAR RATES

tenance companies. But the UK business fits in with BICC's other rail work around the globe. In the US, the group has won a maintenance contract for Amtrak.

Elsewhere privatisation has brought business in telecoms and utilities, with BICC's cable arm the main beneficiary. New entertainment opportunities and the Internet are the main drivers. Given Labour's interest in new technology, a government less keen on asset sales should not damage BICC's prospects.

TrizecHahn

THE mercurial Dieter Bock always surprises. Out of a messy situation in Africa, he has pitched his tent amid the sheltering steel and glass towers of TrizecHahn, a large North American property development company. Mr Bock is selling some of his own property developments - including the former Mappin & Webb site in the

City of London — to acquire a modest stake in TrizecHahn. Mr Bock's pedigree suggests he will not be content with 4 per cent of anything However, the tiller at Trizec Hahn is firmly in the hands of Peter Munk. The man who turned Barrick into the

world's most successful gold producer is no pushover. This begs the question as to why TrizecHahn wants Mr Bock. The American developer has been desperate to extend its reach beyond North American shores and, to date, has little to show besides a business park near Berlin and some joint ventures in Eastern Europe. Real estate is an insider's game: Mr Bock could provide the

stalled Euro-ambitions. Even if it does not pay off. Mr Bock's 4 per cent in TrizecHahn is not as sensitive as his 18 per cent stake was in Lonrho.

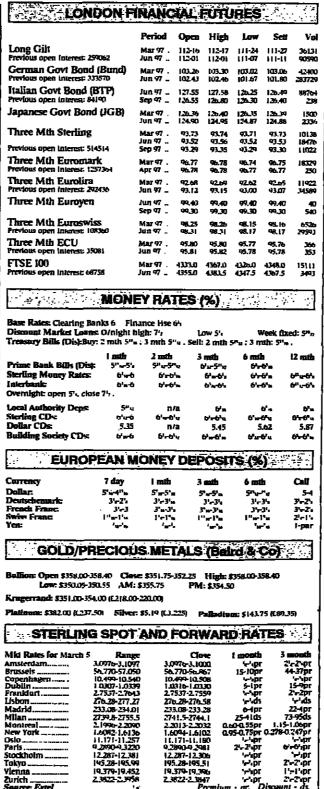
German connections that

kickstart TrizecHahn's

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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Singapore	Allum Co of Am 715 724 Amax Cold Inc 75 75	Flee Fini Gra 67', 61',	Peco Energy 22 324
Sweden	Amerada Hess 534 524	Floor Corp 61 59% Ford Moior 32% 31%	Penney (IC) 45 45 Penney (IC) 564 554
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	Amer Stores 434, 44	Gen Milk 65' 64'	Phillips Pet 42+ 41+ Pizzey Bowes 62+ 62+
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I Brazil real" I ASAA I AGOD	Apple Computer 16', 16',	Genuine Parts 464, 47	Pub Serv E & G 28's 28's
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Hong Kong dollar 12.4475-12.4560 (Atl Richfield 126, 126 Auto Data Pro 44, 43,	Off All Pac Tea, 30%, 307,	Remodes Metals A2s 62s
India rupee	Avery Dennison 40% 40%	Haliburan see .c	Rockwell Inti 644 621 Rotus & Haza 931 934
Kuwali dinar KD 0.4845-0.4845	Avon Products 54, 59, Baker Hughes 37, 34,	Harcouri General 47'. 47'	Royal Dutch 175% 172%
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BP 5.600 Orange 2.900	Carolina Per 17 77'.	Aimberly-Clark 100', 100'.	Temple Inland S4's 50's
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strange air of unreality gathers over politicians when they start thinking

A point pensions. Conservative and

Labour alike switch into their most states-

manlike mode when confronted with the

ticking demographic timebomb of ageing, supposedly about to hit Britain with the

force of an off-course meteor. No matter that

the suspect package contains only a small device. It could cause moderate fiscal

damage in 30 years time but should by then

be deactivated by greater saving, a higher

birth rate, longer working lives, immigra-

tion, steadier growth or some other combi-

nation of natural economic processes.

Fired by the "need" to address a long-term

issue and egged on by life assurance groups

ravenous for new products, the parties have duly shown their modern colours. New Labour has applied relentlessly sensible

pragmatism, ending with a mishmash of

modest, overlapping, politically correct pro-

posals to extend the voluntary pensions net.

the tatty state carnings related pension scheme (Serps). Instead they have applied free-market ideology rigorously, devising a

radical programme to privatise the universal

or "basic" state pension and to enforce com-

pulsory private saving. Oddly, their propos-

als attack a problem that does not really exist. And if it did, they would not solve it.

The real pension issue is to persuade

people to save more voluntarily to meet higher costs and expectations in retirement

and make good the withering away of the

basic state pension. While both parties

Conservatives were expected to phase out

SDAY MARCH 6 1919



Papouis retains Pollard

MORE on NatWest's trials and tribulations. I can report that Kyriacos Papouis, the former trader at the centre of an investigation into a £50 million write-off at NatWest, has retained Stephen Pollard of Kingsley Napley, the law firm, to represent his

Pollard is best-known for his skilful handling of Nick Leeson's case, includ-ing the rogue trader's interrogation by fraud squad officers in his Frankfurt prison cell and the subsequent court case in Singapore. More importantly for Papouis is that Pollard, Napley's youngest equity City regulation.

Election tipple

TRUE-BLUE Archie Norman is cashing in on the forthcoming elections with a selection of political ales. The prospective Conserva-tive parliamentary candidate, who unwittingly predicted a Labour victory, will be stocking Asda's shelves with Major's Mild, Tony's Tipple, and Ashdown's Ale.

The Conservative brew is modestly described as "a great British beer that has been popular for some years now with the landed. gentry and the City. Perhaps for the richer palate and rumoured to be good for the constitution."

Tony's Tipple is described as "a Labour of love. It had mass appeal back in the Seventies followed by a fall in demand. The beer is now enjoying something of a comeback." Curiously, the only election beer label Asda sent back to the drawing board was Tony's Tipple - for the social drinker.



"I had this most marvellous dream in which Tiny took over at Lonrho"

Distinctive note

GRAHAM KENTFIELD will take a copy of a 200-year-old pound note to West Wales today. The visit by the Bank of England's chief cashier is to mark the bicentenary of the ill-fated invasion of 1.400 Frenchmen at Fishguard in 1797. Their arrival led to panic in the Square Mile, there was a run on the Bank's gold reserves, and it became necessary to issue, for the first time, £1 and £2 notes.

Curry flavour

CITY types know a good restaurant when they see one - or at least they think they do. So it comes as no surprise that Christopher Reeves, the chairman of Merrill Lynch Europe. made certain he was heard when it came to making a nomination for the London Restaurant Awards. He both faxed and sent a hard copy of his nomination to the award organisers, hailing Chutney Mary's in King's Road, Chelsea, his number one curry haunt.

UNDER the spotlight at a Downing Street press conference yesterday. Peter Lilley was somewhat tongue-tied. Unveiling plans to abolish Serps, the Social Security Secretary referred to Britain's "biggest spread of home ownership". Quickly, he cor-rected himself: "Oops, I mean person ownership." No Peter, I think you mean pension ownership.

MORAG PRESTON

Small earthquake from Chile, not many votes

THE NOO IND

devise new schemes of varying merit, however, the existing occupational pension system is also withering away.

In contrast to the total social security budget, the burden of the basic state pension has fumbled in the past 15 years, to about 4 per cent of national income. Taxpayers have saved far more by indexing the pension to prices instead of earnings than they have spent paying pensions to more people for longer. The slice of the national cake now used for basic pensions would amply cover a sharper rise in the number of pensioners between 2015 and 2030.

If we designed a new pension system from scratch, we might well adopt Chile's model of forced saving with a limited choice of highly regulated providers, instead of a payas-you go tax transfer between the genera-tions. The International Finance Corporation commends it for emerging countries with unstable governments as well as for collapsed former communist states where pension rights have been wiped out by inflation. For a stable developed country, it still has the advantage of channeling money into private business, but also the fundamental drawback of forcing two generations



(who cannot yet vote) to pay both for their own pensions and for other people's.

SEARJEANT

Privatising the basic state pension aims to restrict the maw of the state and cut the tax burden. In reality, it will raise the tax burden, mainly to replace lost national insurance contributions. Just as rent deregulation and VAT on fuel boosted social security spending, just as rail privatisation intially boosted subsidies, so the Chilean experiment would have the opposite effect to that intended in the short term. In this case, the short-term could be more than 40 years.

Worst of all, this irrelevant vote-loser could well cut total retirement pensions. The aim is to replace most of the lost NICs by abolishing tax relief on all the new generation's pension contributions, shifting relief to pensions in payment. By the normal laws of supply and demand, you would expect this to cut demand for voluntary second-tier pensions, which should provide the bulk of retirement income for most people. This disincentive would be even greater if people believed that the privatised pension would be bigger than the state pension it replaced.

Conveniently, free-marketeers now contend that reliefs do not affect savings. Without up-front reliefs, however, the same proportion of income saved will yield a smaller pension. It is too easy to forget that investment returns affect pensions as much as contributions. Without contribution relief, money-purchase pension schemes might well disappear in favour of more

flexible Pep-type savings vehicles.
Three threats already hang over pensions. Mis-selling of personal pensions after earlier attempts to scale down Serps led to a collapse of the market, which is only now recovering. The providers are just the sort of companies to whom the basic state pension would be handed over. They need to demonstrate that they can provide pensions at much lower cost for low earners or those with irregular incomes before they can even be entrusted with more money that would have gone into Serps.

The tougher investment standards imposed by the new Pensions Act, allied to City pressure on companies to restrict variable pension costs are persuading a growing stream of employers to abandon schemes guaranteed to pay pensions according to final salary. These are being replaced by money-purchase funds that are simpler and potentially better but drastically under-funded. Combined contributions are typically 10 per cent of pay rather than 15 per cent plus. Many more employers will switch to cheap fixed-cost schemes once contribution

holidays paid for by the share boom end. Finally, both parties Treasury teams are eveing the vast potential taxes "lost" through pension scheme perks. Labour, in particu-lar, may well end tax relief on dividends and restrict gains tax relief. Again, that will cut returns and ultimately cut pensions.

Earners must pay for non-earners, through taxes or by profits and interest taking a thicker slice of the national cake. Instead of addressing poverty, the key to expanding that cake, we seem to be limbering up for a fiscal war between the generations. Suicide kits for the retired, whether private or free on the National Health, may not be far away,

LibDems passionately sell distinct economic approach

Janet Bush says Malcolm Bruce

has declared

a plague on both Labour

and the Tories

The joint statement on constitutional reform published yesterday by Labour and the Liberal Democrats gave proof, if any were needed, that the two parties are likely to cooperate closely in the event of a abour election victory.

But, even as the final touches were being agreed, Mal-colm Bruce, the Liberal Democrats' Treasury spokesman, vehemently denied any favouritism towards Labour and bias against the Conservatives as far as the economy was concerned. In an interview with The Times, Mr Bruce declared a plague on both their houses.

"We are trying to get across to people this message. You know you want rid of the Tories, but you know in your hearts that Labour hasn't got the answer. It is a party which has torn its heart out. It has no philosophy. Its only philosophy is do whatever is necessary to win. But then what?" An independent-minded

Scot and a member of the Liberal Party since he was 17, a strategy of cosying up to Labour appears to hold few attractions for Mr Bruce.

He urges the electorate to vote Liberal Democrat on its merits, passionately selling an array of economic policies that are quite distinct from the offerings of the two main electoral contenders. There are three main areas where Liberal Democrat policy is resolutely different. It is the only party that openly advocates raising taxes and the only party unequivocally committed to making the Bank of England independent and

joining a single currency.
On tax, Mr Bruce has committed himself to a lp rise in the standard rate of income tax and a 50p higher rate tax band for those earning more than £100,000 a year. That would plough £2 billion a year into education in each of the five years of the next Parliament and provide funds to take half a million low-paid workers out of the tax net as well as blunt the impact of the

hen Dieter Bock first sur-faced at Lonrho in February

pany's mercurial founder, could hardly

have been more fulsome in his praise.

The German property entrepeneur.

then 53, was hailed as the heir-

apparent, a prodigal son, a hero.

Rowland, welcoming Bock as joint

chief executive, said that the pair would

work "happily, smoothly and indivis-

ibly". They swiftly became known as

As marriages go, it did not last long.

Barely six months into the job, reports

of "tensions" were circulating. Indeed,

in October 1993, Mr Rowland, then 75,

said of the German entrepreneur: "I'm

still waiting for some performance

from him. So far, he hasn't delivered a

stroke of business. Frankly, he hasn't

got a clue." One can only imagine the

atmosphere after that little episode.

the "indivisibles".

1993, Tiny Rowland, the com-

many others by raising per-

Mr Bock's attempts to "normalise"

Lonrho continued in early 1994, with

the ousning of four of Mr Rowland's

long-standing boardroom allies. Later

in the year. Lonrho issued a terse

statement announcing that Mr Row-

land was to resign as joint managing

director and chief executive. He was

invited to stay on as president, and

would continue to draw a £1.2 million

Then came the coup de grice. In

March 1995, Mr Rowland was handed

a letter telling him he was being

removed as a director, employee and

president-elect. There was no payoff.

and - outrageously - he would no

longer have the run of Lonrho's

Gulistream GIV jet. Mr Rowland was

"totally shocked", and swore to pursue

Mr Bock "until the end of his days". He

went on to rubbish Mr Bock's perfor-

Mr Bruce is scathing about the two main parties' refusal to acknowledge a need to raise taxes to pay for improvements plenty of evidence that voters understand quite a lot of people will not get something for

They have been deceived the Tories who have claimed to cut taxes and have actually across the hoard in-

poor harder than the better off.

And, for all the courage of tax increases, he will not go so far as to say that there may be a deener fiscal problem that must be tackled. It is difficult. he admits, for his party to go even further out on a limb given that the others refuse point blank to admit that there is any pressure on them to cut

spending or raise taxes.

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Mr Bruce argues that long-term rates could be 1.5 per cent

LETTERS

From Mr Brian

BUSINESS

Eversholt was undervalued

Hutchinson Sir, The lead story in your business section of February 20 about the £42 million profit for the four Leasing does, I agree with Labour, warrant a Com-

mons debate. Had these

gentlemen gained, say £1 million each, that would seem reasonable alongside the £230,000 received by the other 66 Eversholt employees. What is also worrying is the personal profit gained by the four directors of Candover, the venture capital backers of the buyout who share between them

£600,000, presumably on top of fees and commissions earned by their company.
I work in the private sector for a major plc and find it difficult to imagine how the rolling stock companies could have been so undervalued by the Transport Department. Could it be that the DoT only really understands value for money in road terms? This

network. As I stand in the rain on Southampton Parkway Station each weekday morning with my (£5K plus) season ticket in my pocket, I find it increasingly difficult to support the privatisation of the railways. A few people have the services are certainly no better, and I no longer have any ownership of our railways. Where is the "value added" we were all

quaint attitude to the rail

promised? Yours faithfully, BRIAN HUTCHINSON, 10 Oakwood Court, Oakwood Close. Chandlers Ford, Hampshire.

Moral maze over genetic testing

From Mr Richard Hawkes

Sir, Pennington (The Times Business, February 19) is of the view that "the insurance industry will one day have to take a moral stand and forbid refusal of cover", even where genetic testing shows that provision of that cover is likely to lead to a loss.

What moral attitude should a member of the public take if he knows

☐ his genetic testing shows he will die early; ☐ insurance companies are required to provide him with cover at a price suitable for people in good health?

It's all very well for the organiser to run a lottery that no one wins, but who would run one that selfselected people would nev-

Yours faithfully, **CRC HAWKES** Lane Clark & Peacock. St Paul's House, St Paul's Hill.

Winchester,

Hampshire.

Letters to the Business section of The Times can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.



Malcolm Bruce, the Liberal Democrats' Treasury spokesman, appears not to be attracted to a strategy of cosying up to the Labour Party

sonal allowances. In addition, the Liberal Democrats have promised to put an extra 5p on a packet of cigarettes, using the money to abolish charges for eye and dental checks. The beauty of the programme is that it is costed, overtly devotes funds to address the key issues of low pay and education, and even demonstrates in a concrete way how funds can be redistributed to reflect different priorities - a strategy touted by Labour but not detailed in any way.

in public services that the electorate demands and is being promised. He says there is nothing, but, nevertheless, they are not being told the truth.

They have only been able to finance their programme over the last 17 years by selling off the family silver and they are running out of things to sell. The Tories are asking questions as to how other parties will finance their programme. mark as to how the Conservatives could finance another Parliament." But Labour comes in for just as much flak. They will do as the Tories do. probably less progressive taxes than income tax, less fair taxes, ones that will hit the

It is a fair betrayal of what Labour once stood for." For all the vehemence of his ng an uncomfortable and, in some ways, limited middle route. He has to admit that £2 billion a year will not solve all the shortcomings of Britain's defends the programme on the ground that the other two

Mr Bruce shows little doubt on the two major changes his

narty offers on the conduct of monetary policy. He sides totally with the Bank of England on the recent disagreement with Kenneth Clarke on interest rates in the face of virtual unanimity in the City and the body politic that the Chancellor has probably got it right by resisting calls for higher rates. If anything, the Bank has not been tough enough in pursuing the Government's inflation target because, without full independence, it is not in a strong

But the current argument

Jon Ashworth reflects on Dieter Bock's in and out career with Lonrho

distributed at great expense to

Hardly surprising, perhaps, that Mr

Bock has had enough. He initiated the

process last October when he sold his

18 per cent stake to Anglo American.

the South African mining colossus, for

£257 million, and stepped down as

Lonrho's chief executive. He retires as

a director at the Lonrho annual

How will Mr Bock be remembered

in years to come? To some extent he is

as much of an enigma as when he first

came on the scene four years ago; the

quietly-spoken German property en-

trepreneur who found himself em-

broiled in British boardroom politics.

Born in the former East Germany, his

family moved to West Germany in

1956. He studied law and accountancy

and went on to form his own consult-

meeting in two weeks.

mance in at least two circulars, ing firm in Frankfurt in 1973. He began

Lonrho's 54,000 shareholders.

you to convince me that a who is 20 points behind in the polls four months from an election doesn't have that in consider interest rate changes," he says.

lower than they are now if the Bank were independent, saving Britain £5 billion a year in interest charges on its borrowing. He also believes that the Bank should continue to have a single statutory purpose of bearing down on inflation, in contrast to Labour which wants to see the Bank to pursue economic growth as well. "Making the cultural shift in this country to the idea that permanently sustained low inflation is the bedrock of economic policy requires that this is the overriding objective. there is a danger that you lose

sight of that." The same conviction that

Tiny's 'corporate son' rides off into sunset investing in real estate the following year, and later extended his property interests to South Africa and America. Nobody has ever been quite sure how Mr Bock made his money, and he seems to like it that way. Intensely private, he is married, with four children, enjoys sailing and is a patron

> Laerstate, a privately owned company registered in The Netherlands. There was a time when Mr Rowland would introduce his new-found partner as "my corporate son, Dieter Bock, who will replace me". Towards the end. he was more fond of observations such as: "Mr Bock doesn't own a single asset in his own name, except his bicycle -

of the arts. He is commonly associated

with two companies: Advanta Man-

agement, which at one time had a stake

in Kempinski, the hotel group, and

and perhaps his wife." Mr Bock has got on his bike.



admiration for the determ-

ination to press ahead with

monetary union in spite of all

the difficulties. It is, he says,

an ambitious project just like

the European Union itself and

the single market, both of

which have come an incredible

distance. But there is also a gut

feeling that Britain has no

right to sign up for something

and then not play by the rules.

"We seem to be in a position of

having joined a tennis club

and then complaining it's not

a golf club."
He challenges British Euro-

opposition to a single currency

with a realistic alternative.

This is the last chance for

Britain to get on board or probably fall off completely.

Increasingly, it seems that the

Euro-sceptics are not opposing

monetary union but want to

take Britain out. But they have

articulated nowhere where we

Rowland: victim of coup

British innovation 'is being blunted by a financial vacuum'.

of News at Ten, viewers not making a cup of tea have recently been treated to a weird advert singing the praises of Bill Gates. Microsoft and the Nasdaq stock market. It charts the software company's success and closes by asking where else investors could find companies capable

Withers, the City law firm. has come up with a suggestion why the London Stock Exchange cannot muster similar success stories to boast about.

In a report released today, it points out that Microsoft was born from start-up funds provided by a company willing to commit money to someone who was little more than a Harvard drop-out with a good idea. After targeting the FT-SE 350 companies, it has found Britain's top businesses are much more averse to risk, creating a culture where a young Master Gates would have been given short shrift. As a result, it says, Britain is falling

into the laggards' league in the interna-

tional technology stakes. For six months, Withers has been taking the pulse of corporate venturing: where large companies invest in smaller velopment companies in the same field. It is intended as a long-term plan, using money more efficiently than with

in-house development. The Withers report found that most Fraser Nelson and Ashley Potter discover

a worrying aversion to corporate venturing

British companies are unwilling to make such an investment. David Gebbie, the author of the report, believes this reluctance is blunting the country's competi-tive edge. He said: "It seems that the UK is in danger of becoming a nation of shopkeepers selling products developed in other countries.

"This is not through a lack of innova-

tion, but through a financial vacuum which is leaving many of them without the vital funds they need to develop. If we don't do something about it now and reevaluate the importance of corporate venturing we will fall behind the opposition."

The report found that the core of companies that had tried corporate venturing did so for long-term growth and as part of a diversification strategy. More than 35 per cent of those involved in venturing said they considered it vital for commercial survival. Where there were problems, these were caused by companies trying to exert control over the smaller company. Most firms that would not consider corporate venturing said they were unwilling to accept the "hands-

off" attitude which is crucial to success. The reluctance is being felt by Britain's inventors, who are today staging an exhibition of their devices in London. It is being organised by Inventor Link, which helps inventors to market their inventions. Richard Paine, chairman of Inventor Link, said: There is no lack of venture capital floating around. The problem is that it only comes in chunks of millions. The people we organise only

need tranches of E100,000 to develop This can only be bad for Britam's long-

term prospects. Corporate venturing would not seem in offer much of a solution. The survey found that the average sum invested was around 1500,000 — half the average investment of a venture capitalist, but still way out of

the average inventor's league.

Mr Gebbie says that any further improvement in the situation would need a fundamental shift in the nation's way of looking at ventures. "In Britain, if you try something and fail, then you are seen as a loser," he said. "In the US, if you fail you are seen as a trier. It is this philosophical difference which is the problem."

BICC keeps cash tight to cut debts by £225m

BICC, the cable and construction group, reduced its debts from E305 million to E80 million last year but expects continuing problems in the European building sector.

Alan Jones, chief executive, said: "We have managed our cash very tightly; these numbers are better than had been expected." Contrary to the current trend, the group benelited from exchange rate changes. The value of its dollar-denominated contracts rose and copper price changes boosted cashflows. Mr Jones said: "With our

improved financial position. we are continuing with investments with considerable capi-

Five brick plants sold by Ibstock

IBSTOCK has sold five brick-making plants for £53 million and will use the proceeds to reduce

The plants have been sold to Ambion Brick company, which paid £44 million on completion and will pay a further £3 million in instalments, with interest, over 21 months.

A further £6 million is payable by Redland under an agreement entered into at the time of the acquisition by Ibstock of Redland Bricks last July.

The five plants are the subject of undertakings given by Ibstock to the Trade and Industry Department in July 1996.

The brick plants are at Eldon and Todhills in Durham, Steer Point in Plymouth, and Warnham and Wealden in West Sussex. They have a combined manufacturing capacity of 174 million bricks a year and net assets of about £50

Ambion is a new company formed by Royal Bank Development Capital.

tal expenditure in 1997. Projects will be completed in 1997 and 1998 and will contribute to further growth." The squeeze on government

spending in Europe to fit economies for monetary union has prolonged the construction slump. In the UK. BICC escaped the depressed conditions by developing a rail maintenance division that incorporates several former British Rail units and is already profitable.

Market conditions in the European cable sector were "particularly difficult" in the first part of 1997, but Mr Jones said: "We do, however, expect the improvements in our growth areas of business to continue, with an emphasis on the second half."

Results for the year to December 31 show pre-tax profits up 18 per cent, to £129 million. Earnings per share rose to 13p from 9p, and the dividend was lifted to 12.5p from 12.41p. Revenue in-creased to £4.7 billion from £4.4 billion.

Balfour Beatty, the main construction and engineering business, saw profits fall to £10 million from £18 million but BICC stressed that, after revamping the management, it now expected gradual improvements in performance.

The group said it continued to strengthen its position in selected regions of the world. with improvements in its established businesses in Indonesia and the Middle East. Overall, the Balfour Beatty order book, now including that of the acquired rail units, stands at £2.3 billion, with 34 per cent outside the UK.

In cables, the major rationalisation programme announced over the last 15 months benefited European and North American operations. Profits in BICC Cables improved 19 per cent, to £94 million, but the second half was adversely affected by a gap in the normal order pattern for the profitable extra high-voltage cable business and increasingly difficult trading conditions in Europe.

Tempus, page 28



Climbing higher: Paul Davies, chief executive of Parity, left, and David Firth, finance director, enjoyed a good year

Unemployed flock to Wales in search of Korean jobs

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

THOUSANDS of jobseekers from all over Britain have joined the rush for work at the Korean microchip project in

Kelter International, a recruitment firm, revealed that 5,000 hopefuls from as far afield as Scotland and Somerset had applied for work at the two LG electronics factories being built at Newport.

More than 6,000 jobs are being created in the £1.7 billion expansion, the biggest Far East investment ever

made in Europe. Nick Pilgim. recruiting consultant at Kelter, said 60 per cent of registered applications had come from outside Wales. He added: "Wales has be-

come a huge magnet for people seeking long-term, secure careers and there could be over 30,000 job vacancies on offer." As well as 6,000 LG jobs, it is estimated that 22,000 more workers will be required to fill posts in scores of companies supplying the Koreans with components and

services. About 5,000 construction workers will also be needed to build the LG complex and Millennium projects in other parts of South Wales. Mr Pilgrim said the jobseekers were attracted to Wales as a country and

because of the "security element in the jobs on offer". LG will make computer

monitors, large-screen TVs and semi-conductors for the electronics industry. The first phase will start production by the end of the year.

from 2.5p to 4p. The current year has started well in an improving market, particularly on the Continent. Parity said that the millennium issue is attracting "in-creasing attention" and will

be "important" to Parity, "as may the considerable software reworking which would result from monetary union". Parity anticipates further "add-on" acquisitions this year, mainly in Britain and probably in the solutions

Profits and

payout soar

at Parity

By OUR CITY STAFF

PARITY, the computer soft-

ware and services group, in-

creased annual pre-tax profits

from £6.5 million to £10.1

million in the year to Decem-

ber 31. Earnings grew from

10.34p to 15.81p and the total

dividend for the year rises

business. The company said: "We studied a number [of acquisitions] over 1996 and see potential targets regularly but nothing is on the cards at the moment." The company added: "We also believe that the trend to self-employment, which is particularly logical in the fast changing technology sector, will continue and this is encouraging for the Parity business model."

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Loss turns to profit at Thomson-CSF

THOMSON-CSF, the French defence-electronics group that is being privatised, recovered to show a net profit of FFr745 million in 1996 from a loss of FFr791 million in 1995. The value of orders on December 31 exceeded FFr67 billion, the company said. Sales rose 2.2 per cent to FFr36.27 billion. The French Government intends to sell Thomson-CSF by direct negotiation and has signalled that it wants the company to

negotiation and has signalled that it wants the company to become a centre of the French, and even European defence industries capable of competing throughout the world with leading American electronics groups.

The two bidders so far are the French Lagardere Groupe; which won an abandoned first round of privatisation at the end of last year, and Alcatel-Alsthom, the French group, which now plans to link its offer with the merger of Dassault and Alcatel the French groups. and Aerospatiale, the French groups. Thomson-CSF owns 17.4 per cent of SGS-Thomson, a French-Italian company, but is likely to dispose of this holding when it is privatised.

Metal Bulletin ahead

METAL BULLETIN, the business information company, reported an increase in pre-tax profits to £5.1 million in 1996, from £4.23 million in the previous year. Turnover of £22.8 million compared with £19.8 million previously. Earnings were 34.4p a share, rising from 28.3p. The total dividend is increased to 20p a share from 16p, with a 14-2p final. Trevor Tarring, the chairman, said that the company was confident about the long-term success of its newly launched Internet businesses.

Eadie shares tumble

EADIE HOLDINGS shares fell 4½p to i0p after the company said the results for the year ended December 31 will fall significantly short of market expectations and that the final dividend would be scrapped. Michael Green has resigned as managing director and Peter Bromwich has resigned as non-executive chairman but will remain as a non-executive director. John Kembery has been appointed executive chairman. The company said it may not follow its usual timetable this year for announcing its year-end figures.

Proposals on the pint

THE Government is inviting comments on a proposal to extend the guest beer provision to include one bottle-conditioned beer. John Taylor, the Minister for Corporate and Consumer Affairs, said that because of the recent debate about the legality of the guest beer provision under European law, the Government "discussed this change with the European Commission, which has indicated that it would fully support such an extension". Representations should be made in writing to the Department of Trade and Industry by April 21.

Crédit Suisse in red

CREDIT SUISSE, the second biggest Swiss banking group, has slumped into the red for the first time in its 140-year history, incurring a loss of SFr2.43 billion (£1.01 billion) last year. The bank said that the loss stemmed from restructuring measures and the introduction of a management system costing SFr5.4 billion. In 1995, the bank earned profits of SFr1.54 billion. The bank said that operating profits fell to SFr1.79 billion from SFr1.81 billion. The bank is holding the total dividend at SFr4.

Finelist raises payout

FINELIST, the distributor, retailer and marketer of automotive components, raised pre-tax profits to £7.1 million from £4.05 million in the half year to December 31. Earnings per share rose from 8.2p to 10.3p and the dividend rises from 1.9p to 2.2p. Chris Swan, chairman, said all divisions were enjoying organic growth and the contributions from acquisitions were pleasing. The directors view the prospects for the year to June 30 with continued confidence," he said.

Flotation still in Optus sights

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

OPTUS Communications. Australia's second largest telephone company, in which Cable and Wireless has a 24.5 per cent stake, yesterday confirmed that it still plans to float on the stock market this year once litigation over its pay-TV joint venture is resolved.

The group, which began operating in Australia five years ago, was forced to postpone its A\$4 billion (£2 billion) float last year after it was unable to issue a prospectus because of a dispute between Optus Vision, its 46.5 per cent owned subsidiary, and the Seven Network, the Australian television station.

Ziggy Switkowski, chief executive, said a 1997 float was

MITSUBISHI

INTRODUCE

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SERVER

"still very much our desire". Optus made net profits of A\$59 million (A\$7 million) in the half year to December 31. with total revenues up 32 per cent at A\$1.2 billion. Optus, established five

years ago, now has an 18 per cent share of the long distance market and 32 per cent of the total mobile phone market.

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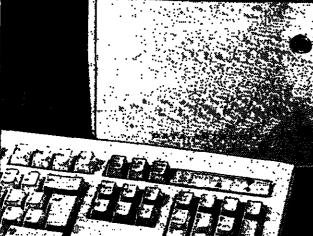
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☑ Lockable fixed disks & Exchangeable areas

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SPEC FOR SPEC, POUND FOR POUND, NOTHING COMES CLOSE.



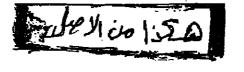
If ever there was a demonstration of the sheer technological might of Mitsubishi, it's the new Apricot FT1200 server. Because nothing can touch it for overall specification at - or anywhere near - the price. In the first place, because the Apricot FT1200 boasts Intel's 200Mhz Pentium Pro processor.

In the second place, because the Apricot FT1200 offers the kind of performance and security features normally found in high-level servers for the price of some desktops.

Like ultra-wide SCSL Like lockable fixed disks. Like the ability to spread data across a number of hard drives or even configure one disk as a "hot spare" to automatically take over from a failed disk. In fact, spec for spec the FT1200 trounces the "equivalent" models from Compaq, Dell, HP or IBM. Which, when you think about it, doesn't make them very "equivalent".

CALL NOW FOR AN INFORMATION PACK





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ESS ROUNDUP

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Hardy Oil takes stake in India

Hardy Oil & Gas, the UK energy company, is acquiring a 15.5 per cent stake in Hindustan Oil, an independent Indian exploration and production com-pany, for £2.9 million.

Hardy said that the Hindustan investment was the latest step in an investment programme that was begun last year and will see the company increas-ingly involved in exploration, appraisal and development activities in offshore India.

Hyundai plan

Hyundai Motor Company said that it is negotiating a \$150 million joint venture with the Bimantara Group of Indonesia. Each party is currently in the process of obtaining governmental approvals. Hyundai said that further details of the joint venture will be released as soon as possible and it is anticipated that this will be no later than the end of June.

Ascot sales

Ascot Holdings said that it has exchanged contracts for the sale of Vantage House, Wimbledon, for £1.5 million. It said that following the renegotiation of a lease at Warboys Industrial Estate, Huntingdon, contracts have also been exchanged for the sale of this property for £3.025 million. Howard Dyer, chairman and chief executive of Ascot said that the company is disposing of property assets to further reduce gearing.

Brandon deal

Brandon Hire has acquired the Southamptonbased portable toilet hire business of BFI. The value of the net assets acquired is £80,000. Brandon Hire also said that it has acquired from Owen Brown the Snowdons furniture hire business. The value of these net assets is £50,000. Financial terms of the deals were not disclosed.

Associated British Ports delivers improved results

By MARTIN BARROW

ASSOCIATED British Ports Holdings, which invested a total of E83 million in transport facilities and investment property last year, expects capital expenditure to remain high in the current year before moderating in 1988.

The company, which operates ports and associated facilities in Immingham on the Humber, Southampton and South Wales, reported a steady rise in cargo volumes and said that the improved property market was creating opportunities to enhance earnings from its substantial property portfolio.

ABP reported a rise in pretax profits to £93.5 million in 1996, from £88.4 million in the previous year. Profits were struck after a £3 million charge against the withdrawal from Universal Pipe Coaters, a loss-making engineering joint venture, at Immingham. Underlying pre-tax profits rose 8.7 per cent to £96.5 million.

Sir Keith Stuart, chairman, said: "Our ports and transport business is well positioned to take advantage of continuing growth in the UK and world economies. We are also seeking to achieve additional expansion of the business by providing our customers at the ports with an increased range of services and

He added: "The improving property market is giving us opportunities to create added value from our extensive port

estates and to provide an additional contribution from carefully targeted projects at other locations, with a particular emphasis on distribution and business space."

Ports and transport contributed profits of £107.8 million. up from £102.7 million, including port-related property in-come that rose to £28.9 million from £26.9 million. A total of 118 million tonnes of cargo passed through ABP's ports in 1996, an increase of 3.5 million tonnes, or 3.3 per cent. Higher volumes of steel exports, timber imports and unit load traffic were handled, partially offset by lower levels of steel and animal feed imports.

Gearing eased to 38.3 per cent at the year-end, from 40.9 per cent previously, and net borrowings were £351 million. The interest charge was reduced to £29.3 million, from £30.7 million.

Underlying earnings rose 7.4 per cent to 17.6p a share. A final dividend of 4.25p a share lifts the total to 7.75p, from 6.5p. ABP shares, which had risen by about 20 per cent since mid-December, fell 172p to 301p yesterday. The company, which was

formerly state owned, played down fears that it might be affected by the Labour Party's proposed windfall tax on privatised utilities. Charles Orange, finance director, said: We don't think we're liable. We are not a monopoly and we are not a utility, so we should



Sir Keith Stuart is seeking to achieve additional expansion of the business

British on Australian airports shortlist

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

THE three British contenders bidding for Australia's airports have made it through to the final stage of the privatisation process, it emerged yesterday.

BAA, the UK airport operator, National Express, the coach operator, and Manchester airport, which are each heading up separate consortia with Australian partners, have all been

shortlisted to bid for Brisbane, Melbourne and Perth airports, the first three to be sold in the Government's A\$5 billion privatisation programme.

Interest from British companies in the sell-off has prompted analysts in Australia to more than double their initial estimates of how much the sale is likely to raise. Brisbane and Melbourne are now expected to carry price raise up to A\$450 million. All airports are being sold separately, with the winner of either Brisbane or Melbourne limited to owning only 15 per cent of the other.

John Fahey, the Finance Minister, said six of the original nine groups had made it through to the final stage after being judged against a range of criteria, including their development plans tags of up to A\$1.4 billion (about £700) for the airport and their contribution to million) each with Perth expected to regional development. The bidders

now have the option of revising their original bids for the airports - which are being offered as 50-year leases with the option of a further 49 years - by mid-April. The Government will announce the winners in June.

Australia's remaining airports are set to be sold off in batches over the next year, although Sydney airport is unlikely to come up for sale until next century because of an ongoing political row over aircraft noise.

Women stay jobless for shorter time than men

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

a shorter time than men, new Government figures show today. It may explain why unemployment among women is so much lower than for men.

Currently, the seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for women is 3.5 per cent, with 430,000 out of work, while for men it is 8.8 per cent, or almost 1.4 million.

During the recession of the early 1990s, the female unemployment rate rose less sharply than for men, and women's unemployment is now back below its 1990 figure, while male unemployment though falling - is still well

above its 1990 level. An analysis published by the Government suggests that one of the main reasons why female unemployment is lower than that for men is that females remain unemployed for shorter periods.

Using internationally accepted data from the Labour Force Survey, the Office for National Statistics says that 34 per cent of all unemployed women have been out of work and looking for a job for less than three months, compared with 22 per cent of men. At the same time, 45 per cent of all unemployed men have been out of work and looking for a job for more than a year, compared with only 28 per cent of unemployed women.

The figures may reflect employer preferences for hiring women, often at lower pay rates than men, and that many of the jobs on offer often part-time and temporary - are frequently favoured by

The study of women's job and unemployment patterns, published in the latest Labour Market Trends, shows that compared with ten years ago there are now 1.3 million more women in work, with 700,000

WOMEN are unemployed for of the increase in part-time jobs. Women are now in the majority in a range of industries, including health, education, hotels and restaurants. retailing and clothing manu-

facture. Companies are not invest-ing in training because of its cost, time and the view that it is a waste, according to a survey of personnel manag-ers. In a study of more than 200 organisations, the Institute of Personnel and Development says that 56 per cent of those surveyed do not see training as a priority, with a third feeling that trained people will leave, while almost half believe it is easier to recruit employees who already have the necessary skills rather than train them themselves

Workers at Peugeot vote for action

EMPLOYEES at Peugeot, the car manufacturer. have voted heavily in favour of industrial action, including a strike, in a dispute over pay and conditions.

Members of the Transport and General Workers' Union and Amalgamated Engineering (TGWU) and Electrical Union at the French-owned company backed a strike by 1,721 votes to 363 and action short of a strike by 1,848 to 243.

The unions said Peugot wanted unilaterally to bring in longer shifts, earlier starts and later finishing times.

The TGWU said the industrial relations dimate had also been soured by Peugeot's refusal to talk seriously about pay.

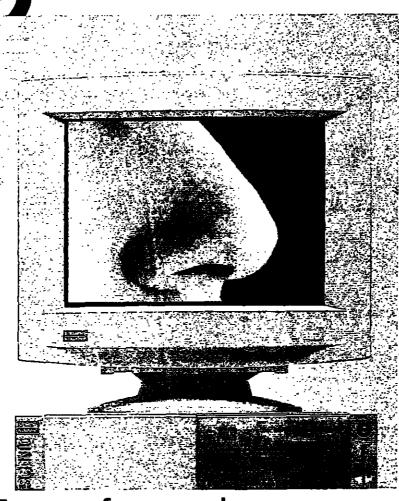
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Siemens Nixdorf: User Centred Computing

Peter Langard on proposed changes to audit exemption regulations

Charities need special treatment

n January 7. the Department of Trade and Industry published proposals to raise the audit threshold for small companies. The stated aim of the Government was to bein small firms by reducing accounting burdens — in this case the statutory requirement for any form of external scrutiny for companies with turnover up to £350,000.

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) has serious misgivings about the proposals, which it has expressed in a formal response to the DTI. It is also worried about the impact of any deregulation on charities.

Apart from a few sectors, such as financial services and banking, the Companies Act 1985 makes no distinction between different activities undertaken by companies. Charitable companies are not listed by the Act as ineligible for small companies exemptions and must, therefore, be covered by specific provisions in subsequent regulations.

There are no such provisions in the proposed amendments to the audit exemption regulations, which means that charitable companies with gross income up to £350,000 will not have to submit their accounts to any form of exter-

I understand that the DTI is

unwilling to make any special provision for charities in the framework of company law, I can see no justification for this position apart from administrative convenience. It is illogical for legislation to distinguish between different types of commercial undertaking but not to recognise any difference between profit-orientated businesses and non-profit organisations that rely on grants and donations.

As a practitioner, I see a very big difference between the charities that I serve as auditor or trustee and the trading concerns that form the bulk of my client base. If commercial companies fall victim to fraud or mismanagement, the losers tend to be the proprietors or similar commercial organisations.

If charities are mismanaged, or their funds fraudulently diverted, the losers are the donors and the charities' beneficiaries. The public trust can also be damaged.

Charities should be given special consideration as public interest entities for a number of reasons. They receive donations from members of the public, money given on trust in the belief that it will be spent on a worthy cause. Charities are also given grants and loans from public funds. They benefit indirectly from the public purse in that

they are granted favourable tax treatment. The public interest alone requires charities to be properly accountable for the money entrusted to them, irrespective of their constitution.

ACCA is concerned that the basic principle that all charities should be treated the same has been overlooked. If the audit exemption proposals are incorporated into regulations in their current form, there will be an imbalance between the legal requirements for charitable companies and charities that are not subject to specific legislation other than the Charities Act 1993. Charitable companies with income up to £350,000 will be totally exempt from audit, while other charities are still subject to independent examination of their accounts if their income is between £10,000 and £250,000, and to full audit if

believe that some form of independent check is needed because charities may be more vulnerable to fraud, error or simply mismanagement than entities in many other sectors. In the first place, it is normal for charities receive income that is unpredictable in terms of timing and amount and that is often in the form of cash. Smaller charities also tend to

their income exceeds that up-

be run by part-time, volunteer staff whom it may be harder to control than paid employees.

There is now a serious risk that charity promoters who wish to avoid external scrutiny of their affairs will opt for incorporation under the Companies Act. More than 13,000 registered charities are already incorporated under the Companies Act, of which only 3,000 have income above the proposed audit threshold of £350,000 and which would, therefore, be subject to audit under the new proposals.

About 115 new charitable companies are being added to the register each month. All charities have to file accounts with the Charities Commission if their gross income or expenditure exceeds £10,000 a year, but the commission does not have the authority or the resources to go behind the reported figures in the majority of cases.

ACCA is deeply concerned that the drive for deregulation of small businesses has obscured important considerations. One of these is the need to recognise charities as a special category in companies legislation. ACCA urges the Government to address this

The author is president of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants



Peter Langard is worried about the impact of deregulation

BAT INDUSTRIES

Dividend up 8%

Preliminary results for the year to 31 December 1996

PRE-TAX PROFIT	£2,495m	+5%
EARNINGS PER SHARE	48.6p	+2%
BASE DIVIDENDS PER SHARE	26.0p	+8%
Additional FID payment	3.5p	

- After last year's 26 per cent increase in pre-tax profit, progress has been more measured in 1996. Pre-tax profit rose by 5 per cent, after an exceptionally high charge of £160 million in respect of US environmental claims reserving at Eagle Star. The underlying profit from continuing operations increased by 7 per cent.
- Tobacco made further progress, building on 1995's outstanding results, with profit up 7 per cent in local currency at £1,634 million.
- Financial services trading profit was £1,181 million, excluding the US environmental run-off claims, with excellent performances from Farmers and Allied Dunbar.
- "Looking forward, both our businesses have an excellent future. Our twin goals are to improve the long term growth prospects of our businesses and to increase shareholder value. We continue to evaluate business opportunities and issues of corporate structure that will enable us to meet them."

Lord Cairns, Chairman

Full financial statements for the year ended 31/12/96 will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies and carry an unqualified audit report. The 1996 Annual Report is being posted to shareholders at the end of March. Copies of the prekmary announcement m Company Secretary, B.A.T industries p.I.c., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H ONL

A big error of judgment that is still unresolved

PERSONAL tragedies are always sad, even when they are instructive. And the worst part is always that, with the benefit of hindsight, everyone can see how they could have been avoided.

At a disciplinary hearing this week at the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), the details of the Jim Waits saga were examined and at every point the same question was hanging in the air. "Why do people make such disastrous errors of judgment?".

The Waits affair goes back to last October when a fateful extraordinary meeting of the ACCA was held in the same room that this week saw the resulting disciplinary hearing. The matters at issue then were those raised in the long battle waged for many years by Prem Sikka in his efforts to reform the ACCA along what he sees as more demo-

In particular, the motions at the meeting called for the ACCA's office-bearers to be elected by the whole mem-bership rather than simply by the council, and for annual meetings to be held on Saturdays to enable more members to attend.

There was also a motion that. "In view of her poor performance, the ACCA chief executive's salary be halved." In other words, as often happens in squabbles of these

broader reformist sues spilt over into personal attacks. The meeting was broadly well behaved. There were some insults traded and there was some heckling. But both sides put their points of view. In any case, everyknew result

was a foregone conclusion. started making complaints Only a small proportion of about procedure. Residual the membership voted, sorrow at his downfall and, on the main resolution. Professor Sikka was indignation. A storm in a teacup you might think — one of those

very British disputes that derive from a combination of a desire to let people have their say and dogged persistence in the face of overwhelming odds.

The tragedy did not start to unfold until the very last speech of the meeting. At that point everything was going more or less to form. Professor Sikka and his supporters had got across their point, but the strength of opposition against them was overwhelming. Then Mr Waits, the ACCA vicepresident, got up to give the closing speech. Wearing his vice-presidential insignia around his neck, as the disciplinary hearing this week made much of, he was to turn the whole meeting upside down.

Mr Waits is a mild character. He had been chief executive of Worcester and District Health Authority, but had taken early retirement to devote the next three years to his work as an office-bearer of the ACCA. A pleasant and challenging vista of public ser-

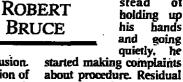
ahead. Then he started speaking and jaws started to drop around the room. He accused Professor Sikka of being anti-Semitic in asking for annual meetings to be held on Saturdays. He suggested that Professor Sikka's occasional use of university stationery when firing off a missive amounted to "academic sleaze". And then in what amounted to a misplaced sense of his own humour Mr Waits concluded by saying that Professor Sikka should go off and form a new accountancy body. It should be called the World Association of Non-Chartered Certified Accountants said Mr Waits, lingering on

As the disciplinary hearing heard, "confusion followed". The votes were taken and half an hour later, after many worried conversations, Mr Waits told the meeting that he hadn't intended giving any offence and apologised if any had been taken. The next weekend, council members approached Mr Waits and he tendered his resignation as vice-president and council member. On November 4 he resigned. On November 7 Professor Sikka issued an official complaint, as did other members. On January 15 the

the tasteless acronym.

investigations committee de cided that there was a case to answer and referred the matter to the disciplinary committee. In the meantime, Mr Waits had misjudged the stead holding up his bands

of



within the ACCA turned to ary committee declared the risen to just over £3,000. Waits's procedural wran-

point to be proved this week, the case's costs had And on the ground that Mr. glings had caused most of them, he will have to foot the bill. In view of his previous "exemplary work" he was simply admonished for unprofessional behaviour. Either an appeal or a resignation from the full ACCA will follow. The question of how Mr

Waits made such an enormous error of judgment is still unresolved. For the accountancy profession, the good to have come from it is that the disciplinary system, which a number of years ago would have glossed over the affair, has brought justice in a public and transparent form.

The downside is that it shows that some accountants have still not grappled with the responsibilities they have to their fellow members and, as Professor Sikka has persistently and annoyingly lectured them, to the world beyond their own profession.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Bottom one-liner at ICAS dinner

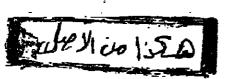
ROBERT SMITH, president of Scots ICA and famed for vanquishing Nicola Horlick at Morgan Grenfell, brought the ICAS president's dinner to his home town of Glasgow for the first time last week. And sitting with him in the place of honour was John Barclay, to whom Smith had been apprenticed back in the 1960s. Behind every apprentice who passes his exams", said Smith, "stands an astonished partner." Barclay came in handy later in the evening during a noisy discussion about property revaluations. The chairman of the Accounting Standards Board, Sir David Tweedie. was asked for a ruling. "I can sec where your credit is," said Tweedie. But where is your dehit?" Barclay leant forward. "Nearest the window," he said, "nearest the

GOOD news from the Bristolbased firm of Norton Partners. The national debt is about to be paid off. The firm has come, across an Inland Revenue seif assessment statement asking for £404,040,404,040,404.04 from a client. "That is just the first instalment," it points out. The second, due in July, should take care of the national finances for the next millennium."

The first test

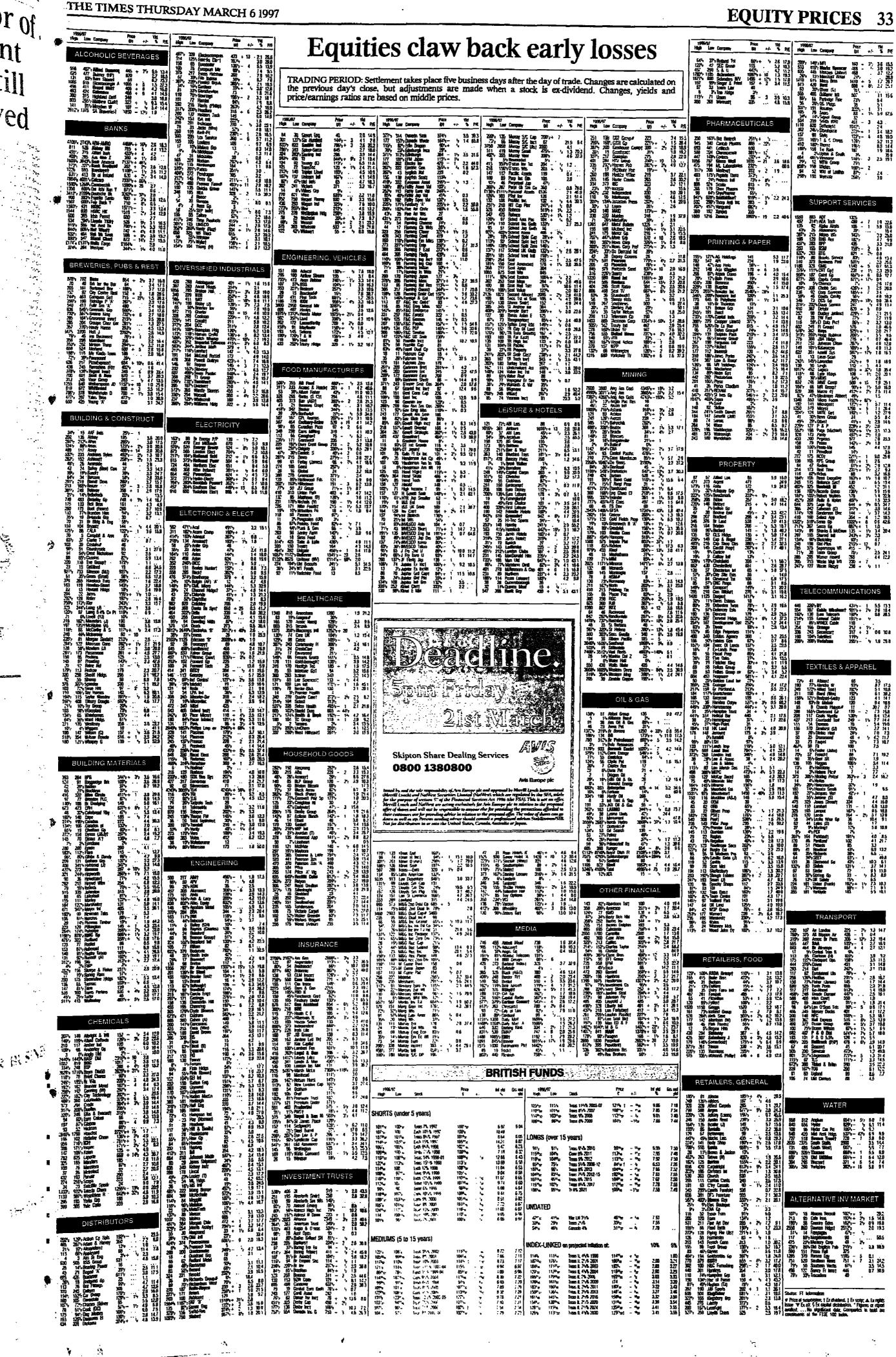
THE International Accounting Standards Committee is in deep trouble. Quite apart from its mad scramble to harmonise global standards, it has run short of tickets. The next board meeting is in Johannesburg and finishes just as the crucial one-day cricket international between South Africa and Australia is due to start. Desperate efforts to find 80 tickets for an already sold-out game are under way.

ROBERT BRUCE



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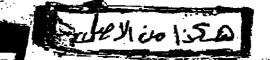




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Mel di Nesta





RSDAY MARCHON

Tom Cruise is all heart as a scarcely credible sports agent in

Jerry Maguire



Pretensions and a starry cast—but a routine thriller format constrains the new Blood & Wine

THESTIMES



FILM 3

Irma Vep is
a bright and
breezy film about
film-making, made
in four weeks by
Olivier Assayas



FILM 4

... but Swann is a glum Canadian tale, fitfully lifted by Miranda Richardson and Brenda Fricker

Would you buy sincerity from him?

CINEMA: Geoff Brown sees Tom Cruise widen his range and go for an Oscar in Jerry Maguire

com Cruise is such a master of the cocky grin, the slick patter and strutting walk that it comes as a shock to find that his new film, Jerry Maguire, invites us to examine his conscience. There he stands in the opening minutes, a successful sports PR agent with a powerful Los Angeles company, full of yuppie clones braying down phones, won-dering if he has not become "another shark in a suit". To help to foster a people-friendly environment, Cruise proposes that the agency should reduce its client roster and care much more about those that remain. The sharks fire him.

Since this is movieland and not the real world, the effect is devastating. The man has to start from zero. Out of all his clients, only one, a truculent baseball player played in scene-stealing fashion by Cuba Gooding Jr. stays with him. He loses his fiancée. But all is not lost he's still Tom Cruise, and the camera adores him. So, eventually, does Renée Zellweger, a pleasing newcomer to mainstream movies, cast as the agency accountant and single mother who braves the freelance world with Cruise and helps to reorientate his soul.

This is a long film, and not every minute is spent wisely. But, as in his last film, Singles, the writer and director Cameron Crowe knows enough about human behaviour to fill the broad sweep of his plot with telling moments. Gooding's bumptious and brazen Rod Tidwell exemplifies the worst aspects of the modern sports personality; but Crowe also shows him as a man with a vibrant family life, who can teach Cruise a lesson commitment. Jonathan Lipnicki, as Zellweger's son, a six-year-old sprat with looming glasses and a beaming smile who just about avoids

being too cute, also plays a part in Maguire's education. In its sweetness and naivety, Jerry Maguire echoes the Hollywood fables that used to be the preserve of Frank Capra. Capra's persistent star was James Stewart, an icon of homely virtues and idealistic impulses. Cruise is scarcely his modern equivalent; and you can never shake off the feeling that no matter what hoops Crowe's script makes him jump through, he will always remain a smooth operator. By his own standards Cruise gives a good performance, with a wider range of emotions and expressions than usual, although, judged in the cold light of day, it hardly warrants an Oscar

nomination for Best Actor.

"Things are going to turn around," Jack Nicholson tells his boozy wife Judy Davis in Blood & Wine after her credit card has been cancelled again. Experience tells us to doubt him: are those demonic eyes,

Jerry Maguire Empire, 15, 138 mins

Tom Cruise gets

a conscience

Blood & Wine

Odeon Haymarket

15, 103 mins

Seedy doings with Jack Nicholson

Irma Vep

ICA Cinema, 96 mins

Playful and poetic

French delight

Swann

ABC Shaftesbury

Avenue, 15, 95 mins

Glum drama

from Canada

Normal Life

National Film Theatre.

18, 102 mins

Gruelling trek along

life's downward path

that frazzled face, that weary voice the attributes of success? A wine merchant in Miami, he enlists Michael Caine's wheezing safecracker to liberate a diamond necklace from a wealthy client's safe. Then his wife runs off, unwittingly taking the necklace; their discovery by his stepson (Stephen Dorff) prompts one accidental death and numerous mashed limbs.

But why I am telling you all

this? The director, Bob Rafelson, certainly pays the story little attention. What matters to him is the texture of scenes and the light they shine on tortured relationships. Nicholson feeling a corpse for his booty, or tossing a cafeteria tray to the floor: these are the moments that count. Caine provides his share too, as the English expatriate who can still pack a punch while dying of emphysema.

But, for all the tension

Rafelson works into isolated scenes, he is scarcely justified in regarding Blood & Wine as a partner to Five Easy Pieces and The King of Marvin Gardens in a trilogy about dysfunctional families. Those adventurous films of the early 1970s were made, both with Nicholson, when mainstream American cinema took risks. This is a film of the timid late 1990s, its pretensions reined in by the kind of plot you expect in a TV thriller.

There is a further difference. Back then, Nicholson was a fresh, explosive talent. Now he springs fewer surprises: we have seen that pained brow and those leering eyes too often before. Blood & Wine passes muster, but it can hardly be called a potent brew.

That description belongs instead to Irma Vep. a freewheeling low-budget film from a French director, Olivier Assayas, new to Britain. Like many of his predecessors, he served as critic for Cahiers du

Tom Cruise in Jerry Maguire, a film which, in its sweetness and naivety, echoes the Hollywood fables that used to be the preserve of Frank Capra

Cinema, and cinema buffs form an obvious audience for this playful and poetic tale about a Hong Kong starbemused by her role as the cat-like criminal Irma Vep in a remake of the silent French serial. Les Vampires.

For the central role, Assayas secured the genuine Hong Kong article, Maggie Cheung. Much of the film's charm comes from her innocent response to the hurly-burly created by the remake's burnt-out director (Jean-Paul Léaud) and its lesbian costumier. Written in ten days, shot in four weeks, Irma Vep has a wonderful, breezy spirit, and resonates long after more well-tailored

films have faded. Films, for instance, like

Swann, directed by Anna Benor son Gyles, a doleful Canadianle British co-production that
ar trudges through an unprofitable tale about an Ontario
a librarian and a Chicago writer
drawn together by the legacy
of a local poet murdered by
her husband.

renda Fricker and Miranda Richardson make what hay they can with their characters, contrastingly dressed in dowdy dresses and chic black leather. But it is hard to care about their little spats, or the weak saure of academia, or the mystery surrounding the title character, Mary Swann, described as "a new Emily Dickinson". I think I'll stick with the old one.

Normal Life gives an audience a rough ride for a different reason. John McNaughton's film remorselessly follows the downward path of a rookie policeman (Luke Perry) and an unstable wife who loves astronomy and craves excitement. "Black holes are intense," Ashley Judd cries in an unnerving performance. So is the film, which pushes us into our own black hole with two characters spiralling out of control. Strik-

ing, but not very edifying.

Finally, a brief word about the Australian Film Festival, which runs for one week at the Barbican. Rarities to look for include Love Serenade, the quirky tale of two sisters vying for a washed-up DJ; the cinematic jigsaw What I Have Written; and Rolf de Heer's The Quiet Room, a moving examination of a collapsing



Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases . . .

Peter Dominic, 19: Sport films are a risky business, but this is far and away the top gun.

Damian Samuels, 19: A very

funny triumph.

Tim Thornton, 21: The script is wonderful and Tom Cruise is predictably first-rate.

Robert Peter Hunter, 20: A wonderful script and some outstanding performances.

☐ BLOOD & WINE

Peter: A good cast in an unstylish crime story.

Damian: Michael Caine proves he is one of the all-time screen icons.

Tim: Caine was the only thing that kept me awake.

Robert: A dark, moody film that doesn't quite fulfil all that it promises.

NORMAL LIFE
Peter: After a dull beginning, it gets better and better.

Damian: A brilliant portrayal of smalltown America, but better suited to TV.

Tim: A supremely sexy performance from Ashley Judd.

Robert: Bleak look at American life, lewhere dreams end in ainhtmares.

ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION Best Foreign Language Film

HANNY ARDANY CHARLES BELING REMAND GRAUDEAU JUDITH GODRECHE FAN ROCKERONY

REPRAL FIREWORKS and SUMPTUOUS COSTUMES make a FEAST for the senses"

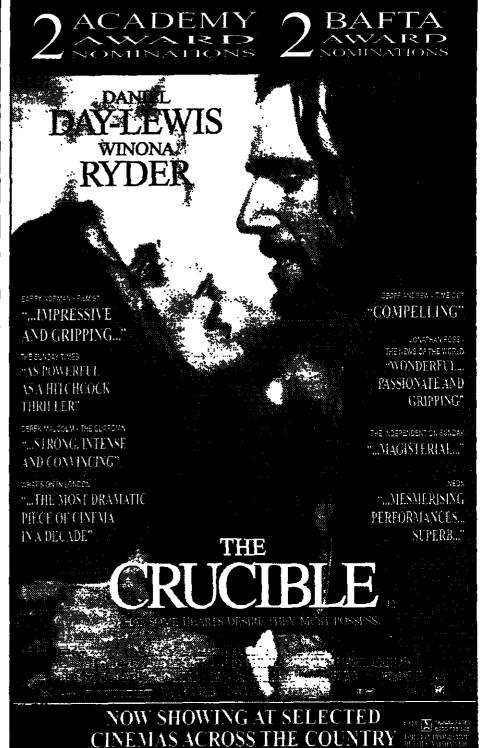
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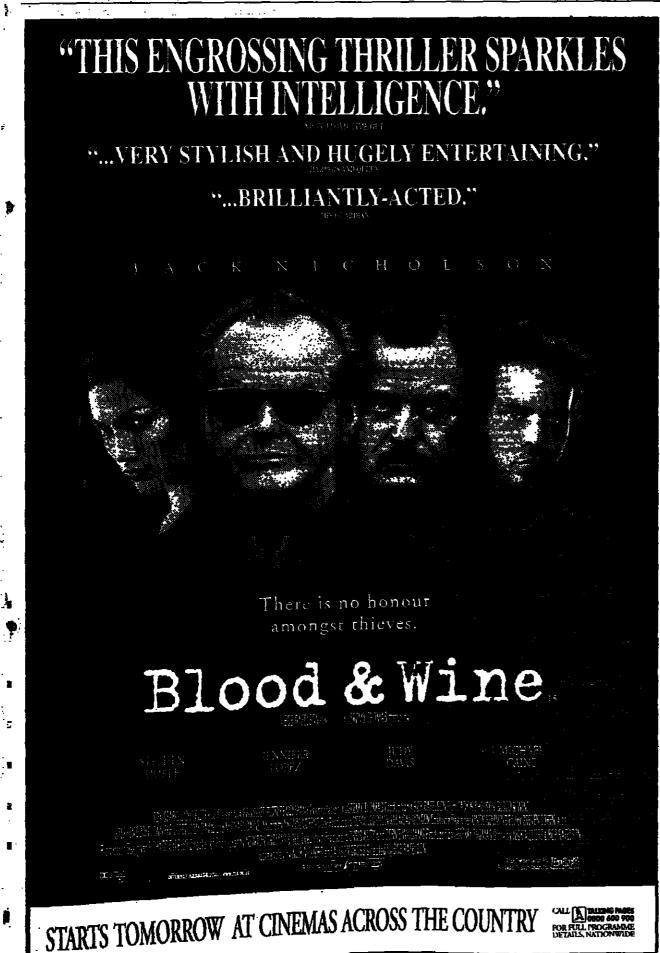
"BREATHTAKINGLY daring, lavish to look at, finely acted and BRILLIANTLY DIRECTED"

SCOUNTS HERRID

"A GERM by PATRICE LECONTE"

CURZON WEST END CHEUSEACINEMA THAMPSTEAD RECHMOND.





CHOICE 1

Maureen Lipman offers a wry look at life in her new Live & Kidding

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Duchess Theatre



■ CHOICE 2

Athol Fugard's The Road to Mecca is staged in Manchester VENUE: Now in preview

at the Royal Exchange

THEXITIMES



NEW VIDEOS

Stealing Beauty, Bertolucci's charming fable of blossoming sexuality, comes to the small screen



■ NEW CDS

Name that tune! Theme music for Dr Finlay and other TV and radio classics is collected on disc.

BADBRAGE. Paul Carroll directs the period ensemble in a programme of Beroque concentos, including music by Vivalda, Bach and Handel.

Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7:30pm.

LIVE & KIDDING Mauroen Lipman presents hersoft for a fine-week season of muscology, humourology and meny another ology Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075) Opens lonight, 7pm Than Mon-Sat, 8pm; mai Sat, 3pm Until April 6

MARHABAL Cairo Opera Ballet makes in British debut (tonight and tomorrow, Bpm) in a celebration of Egypt's rich and diverse contemporary culture Marthabal includes a programme of modern and traditional works parformed by a quintat from the Arabic Music Erisemble (Sat and Sun, 8pm), and screenings of Egyptian films, from 1986-1995, by prominent directors (March 10-12) (March 10-12) Riverside Studios Crisp Road, Hannnersmen, W5 (0181-741 2255).

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM The Belgian National Orchestra begins its lour, outminating in a visit to the North Walcs Thoetro, Liandudrio on Merch 17 Today's

☐ FASCINATING AIDA. Bnol iransies in manufactured AIDA. Brot translet for the threesame, singing of showbic, impossible men and middle age. Three in referencess and Thereon performances only.

Apollo, Shahesbury Avenue, W1 (0171 494 5073) Mon-Sai, 8pm; mail Sai, 3pm; Until March 15

■ GUYS AND DOLLS Richard Eyre terwise his larrous production of the Frank Loesser musical finelds. Staunton recreates her role of Miss Adelande. With Harry Goodman, Clarke Peters and Joanna Riding. National (Owner). South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Mon-Sal, 7.15pm, mats Tue, Wed, Thurs, 2pm, Sal, 2pm. ☐ LUV Revival of Murray Schegal's kny; rummy 1960s romantic comedy love troubles, afe-is-awful troubles bul a happy ending. Net Marcus directs Jermyn Street, 165 Jermyn Street, SW1 (0171-287 2875) Mon-Sat. 8pm mats Thurs, Sat. 4pm Until March 15

ROMANCE ROMANCE Musical IAI ROMANICE, INCHANGE, NUSSEA double-bif by Barry Harman and Keith Hermann, demod from a Schnidder han of love in old Vierma coupled with a modern version set on Long Island Franched by Physics Double, Translate Imm Directed by Steven Devier Transler Irom a self-out run at the Bindewell Giolgud, Shahesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5085) Mon-Sar, 8pm, mats

THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES: Peter

NEW RELEASES

◆ BOUND (18): Thelier about two sultry leabians and a pile of Mob money ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) Clapham Picture House (0171-488 3323) Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) Mezzanine (0181-315 4215) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Virgins: Choisea (0171-352 5096) Haymorket (0171-839 1527)

◆ MARS ATTACKS! (12) Tim Capitam Picture Problet (1717-193 3323) Notting HBI Corenis (\$\) (0171-727 6705) Odeorex Marbie Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (0181 315 4220) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Green (0171-372 63520) UCI Whiteleys (\$\) (0390 888390) Virgins: Fullism Read (0171-370 5356) Transafers (\$\) (0171-370 5356) p (3) 10171-434 0031) Warne

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertalment compiled by Gillian Maxey

Mendalistohn's Violin Concerto and a Wagner adaptation called The Ring, An Orchestral Adventure. Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 3333). Tonight, 8pm Next in Sherfield. Cry Hall (0114-273 5285), tomorow, Hallites, Victora (01422 351158), Salurday

BRISTOL AND CAMBRIDGE Catherine Bott, the Dutay Collective and Sequentia are among the artists taking part in the third Medieval Music part in the third Medieval Music Festival (loday-Sai, running simultaneously in Jesus College Chapel, Cambridge, and St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol (today-Sar) Medieval Music Festival botets and information "Cambridge (01223 357851). Bristol (0117-923 0359)

LEEDS Andy De La Tour's look at political protensions, Landstide, is set after a Labour victory when a new MF and her deleated rival meat at his country home With Jerma Russell, Deborah Norion, Christopher Ravenspoli Gwanda Hughes diror nda Hughes directs a co-production with Birmingham Rep. Countyard, West Yorkshire Playhouse

Quarry Hill (0113-244 2111). Proviews begin tonight, 7.45pm. Opens March 11. 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm. mats. Wed (March 19, April 2). 2pm, Sat (March 15), 3pm. Until April 5.

MANCHESTER: Ann Mitchell, Helen Schlesinger and William Russell play artist, friend and pastor in The Road to Mecoca, directed by Gregory Hersov Athol Fugard's play was hispired by the trus story of Helen Martirs whose house, transformed by sculprure and slamed glass, is now one of South Africa's strangest national monuments. Reyal Exchange, Upper Campfield Markol (0161-833 9839). Previews begin longitht. 7-30pm Chemis March 10. onight, 7 30pm, Opens March 11. LONDON GALLERIES

Cadogan Contemporary Scrain
Butterfield (0171-581 5451)... Central
Saiet Marritus College of Art and
Design: Direction 197 — The College
Erhaltiton (0171-514 7000)... Coram:
Endless: Night: Riccent work by Jim
Paylicis (0171-404 2040)... Carrwen.
Angels of Georges Braque (0171-536
1459)... Goethe-Institut: Lows
Contitt and His Times (0171-411 3400)
Kepil Jartinata: Alfred Walls: Partier
1855-1942 (0171-437 2172)...
National Theatre: Snowdon on Stage National Theatre: Snowdon on Stage (0171-928 2252) Portland Nina Murdoch (0171-321 0422)

Sarpentine Richard Deacon (Gallery Lawn) (0171-402-6075) . V & A: The Cutting Edge: Pifty Years of British Fashion (0171-938-8349/8441)

(0171-734 0122) Tue-Thurs, 7pm; Fri and Sat, 7pm, 9.30pm Until March 15

III A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

Lange, Toby Stephers, Imagen Stubbs in admit production by Peter Hall. Try to longer the film Theatine Royal, Haymanker, SW1 (0171-930 8800) Mon-Sal, 7 45pm; mats Thurs and Sal, 3pm.

■ SWAGGERS Revival of last year's award-witning frank, furnity and real picture of London's underworld by Mike Mahoney Set above a shop dealing in Jake designer clothes

BAC, Lavender HB, Battersea, SW11

(0171-223 2223) Tue-Sat, 7 30pm; Sun, 5 30pm. Until March 9

□ Buddy: Strand (0171-930 8800)

Si Cata New London (0171-495 0072)

Si Gresse Cambridge (0171-494
5000) . Si Jolson Victoria Palaco (0171-834 1317). □ Martin Guerre:

LONG RUNNERS

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessmen of theatre showing in London House full, returns only
Some sests available
Seats at all prices

Mohere's deluded hero. End Sykes excellent as his linker-fingered servant. Pater Hall directs Pager Hall Directs
PlecadSity, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) Mon-Set, Born; mals Wed, Jorn, and Sat, Sprn.

Jpm. and Sat, Spm.

☐ THE SEAL WIFE: Allic Theatre Co celebrates its lentilityear with Sue Glover's haunting play, part loli-tale, part contemporary love story. Directed by Jemn, Lee, designed by Alexin Darke, the team who holped to make Glover's Bondagers on memorable Wimbledon Studio, 103 Broadway, SW19 (0181-540 0362). Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mat Sat, 4pm, Until March 15.

THE SLOW DRAG: Kim Criswell and Albiu Stade in Carson knotzer's jazz play loosely based on the strange life of trumpeter Billy Tiplon, a woman who masqueraded as a man in the 1930s in order to curvive in the bands, Period music from a jazz quarter Freedom, 60 Wardour Street, W1

CINEMA GUIDE Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY (12). ● THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY (12).
Jane Campson's Icily elegant adaptation of Herry Jernes, with Nerole Kidman.
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(017: 834 1317). ☐ Martin Guerre: Prince Edward (017: 447 5400).
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NEW ON VIDEO

■ STEALING BEAUTY Fox Guild, 15, 1996

BERTOLUCCI returns to Italy after 15 years with a very enjoyable, intimate film about an American teenager's sexual flowering during one long dreamy summer in Tuscany. Liv Tyler galvanises with her mixture of innocence and sensuality; and the Tuscan hills look divine. Lightweight, certainly; flimsy, по. With Jeremy Irons and Sinead Cusack. A rental release.

■ THE MONKEES

Warner Music Vision, U, 1967 "HEY HEY, we're the Monkees!" And so they are: four clean-cut lads originally brought together for a frantic television series about a fictitious pop group. They can now be found reunited after 30 years, touring Britain. Most of the six episodes, available on two tapes, feature weak spoof comedy matched to canned laughter. The exception is Monkees on Tour in volume one, a behind-the-scenes documentary directed by Bob Rafelson, following the group in and around a concert in Phoenix, Arizona, during their first national tour.

PHENOMENON Buena Vista, PG, 1996

BIFFED unconscious by a fast-moving light in the midnight sky. John Travolta's small-town mechanic be comes a genius and can learn Portuguese in 20 minutes. His chums grow wary; so does the new girl in town, Kyra Sedgwick. But the FBI becomes interested when he casually decodes secret messages. At first Jon Turtletaub's comic fantasy lollops along happily on the star's easy charm. Then mawkishness piles up and it becomes a dimwitted disease movie in disguise. Available to rent.

THE SPY IN BLACK Carlton, U, 1939

THE first collaboration of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger: a thoroughly entertaining First World War spy drama mostly set in the Orkneys, with Conrad Veidt as a naval

captain trying to contact the local German agent. Veidt and the elegant Valerie Hobson make a splendid star team, and the teasing plot is supported by plenty of bizarre visual delights.

TYPICALLY BRITISH. Academy, E, 1995

DIRECTOR Stephen Frears, Alan Parker, and other industry colleagues muse over the highs and lows of British cinema, interspersed with well-

tious nature of Britain's contribution to the British Film Institute's "Century of Cinema" series tells us much about national hang-ups. The companion programme on this tape, Irish Cinema: Ourselves Alone?, offers a revealing portrait of film-making in a country where foreigners have until recently, always dominated.

heber's simple soldier sounds

even more tragic. At times he

sings as almost in a trance.

trying to cocoon himself from

the brutal world around. He

even manages to invest beauty

into the jagged edges of Berg's

vocal line. So too does Waltraud Meier as the slut

Marie. Her emotions may be

raw as she lusts after the

Drum Major (Mark Baker).

ček, and required listening for

ORCHESTRAL

■ BRITISH LIGHT

IF YOU long for the good old days of Dr Finlay's Casebook,

Here you will find too those great survivors, Sailing By and the theme for The Archers (Barwick Green from Arthur Wood's My Native Heath), alongside other merry little

inclusion of pieces by Elgar and Benjamin Frankel is further evidence that "light music" and "serious" composers are not mutually exclusive.

exponents of the genre. The

Some pieces, for example the Archers and Dr Finlay signature tunes, sound rather different from their familiar versions, suggesting that there is room even here for interpretation of a modest sort.

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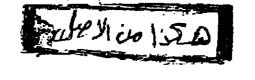
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MUSICAL

Can Francesca Zambello make the Forties wit of Lady in the Dark work for theatre audiences today?



■ THEATRE 1

The transfer of Romance. Romance brings a wry continental look at love to the West End



MUSICAL: Rodney Milnes talks to Francesca Zambello about her new Kurt Weill production



THEATRE 2

... while *The* Positive Hour is a bleak view of life at the sharp end for a social worker



OPERA

Covent Garden gives British singers a chance to dazzle in the new cast of Così fan tutte

Cheers for the home side

TO ITS great credit the Garden is using the second cast for the current Cost to give young and mainly home grown singers a chance to show their paces. When, if ever, did we have three Englishmen together at the Opera House as Ferrando, Guglielmo and Alfonso? It probably looked a bit of risk, but it turns out

to be one well worth taking.

Timothy Robinson and William Dazeley slide easily into the laid-back mid 1990s Armani chic of Jonathan Miller's production. Mozart's two officers could be a couple of derivatives dealers as they arrogantly strike their fidelity bet with Alfonso. And when they return as louche "Albanians" there is a contemporary feel that they arrive fresh from a little pyramid selling.

Robinson, in his first major role for the company, shows a graceful and brightly focused tenor as Ferrando. Tradito, schernito, com-

· PERA Così fan tutte

Covent Garden

ing towards the end of a vocally taxing evening, found him short of stamina, but he recovered to make his conquest of Fiordiligi as elo-

quent as it was persuasive. William Dazeley made a last-minute appearance on opening night to replace an indisposed Bo Skovhus, as Rodney Milnes reported, and his Guglielmo is quite big enough for the Garden. David Wilson-Johnson's first Alfon-so is disarmingly British, a manipu-lative old buffer given to outbursts of misogyny as he watches the kids play games he gave up years ago.

Leah-Marian Jones was the best of the women as a Dorabella who for once is blonde and fluffy as well as flirtatious. The "Heart Duet" with Guglielmo showed the advantage of having fresh young voices

toying with one another. The German soprano Melanie Diener made her house debut as Fiordiligi, despite an announcement of indisposition (unspecified). If could well have been a throat infection because her dark tones made her sound the mezzo in the taken very gingerly - and slowly but she got through without mishap. Sandra Zeitzer's voice is not yet large enough for this house.

Dietfried Bernet was on much better terms with the orchestra than in Don Giovanni earlier this season. He could not have given his cast of debutants more understanding support.

JOHN HIGGINS ● BBC2 is broadcasting Cost fan tutte tive on Saturday at 7pm

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6 How

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1941? 7

would have a tough (and entertaining) time with Francesca Zambello -- she has all the answers, and she believes them. But perhaps one such is needed to question her about her latest assignment here, Moss Hart's and Kurt Weill's Lady in the Dark.

She is known here mainly as an opera producer — the Olivier Award-winning Khovanshchina for ENO, a spectacular arena Tosca at Earls Court, and a Billy Budd at Covent Garden in which she dealt with the English class system as probably only an outsider could. But both at home in America and in Ireland she has worked extensively in the straight theatre, so

this "musical play" is a neat engagement for her. There are a number of "firsts" about *Lad*y. It was Hart's first play detached from George S. Kaufman, with whom he had written a string of near-classics. It was Weill's first legitimate Broadway show, his previous musicals having been sort-of "serious", and its phenomenal suc-

cess in 1941 -- 550 perfor-

mances on Broadway alone - won him the same sort of financial security Salome did Strauss. And Ira Gershwin was writing lyrics for the first time since the sudden death of his brother George.

Everyone agrees that the Weill-Gershwin musical sequences are the work of genius, but what about Hart's play? Will it stand up today? It's about Liza Elliott, a woman on the edge of a nervous breakdown. She's been the editor for ten years of the fashion magazine Allure, which was more or less given to her by her indecently rich and married sugar-daddy. She has a Beatrice-and-Benedick relationship with the advertising manager. Add a Hollywood film star in search of a mother substitute; and the news that sugardaddy is getting a divorce, and Liza is off to the shrink. Hart had been in analysis for years, and had his own psychoanalyst write a preface to the

The play moves between the magazine offices and the analyst's couch, and the music is confined to three extended fantasy or dream sequences. "The music is the inside

a sequence of four one-act plays and three one act operas, and they go A-B-A-B-A. The music is the unconscious world, the spoken lines the conscious one, and at the end they come together in My Ship, a little song that marries those two

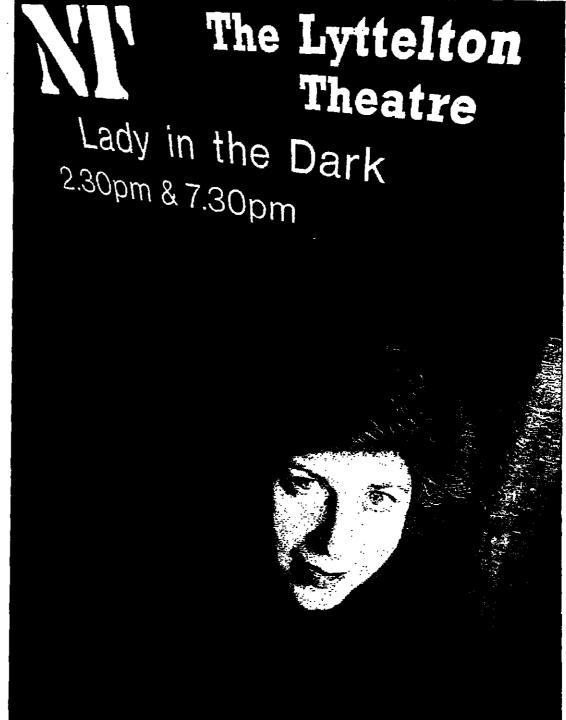
Part of the score's genius is the way the super-smart, Broadwaywitty dream sequences dissolve into nightmares, with the opening phrase of My Ship woven into the musical fabric, so that when the song is finally heard in full, unlocking a childhood trauma, the audience's relief is almost as great as Liza's.

Yes, but in the context of Weili's American output, from the pacifist musical *Johnny Johnson* via Street Scene to Lost in the Stars, why are we supposed to care about this overprivileged, pampered woman? Zambello cites the movies of Woody Allen. "His people are the intellectual. elitist class of New York. You meet them, you say, 'OK, he's going through this midlife,

menopausal male crisis and having an affair, and you think this isn't a story to care about, but when you watch the movie you're either hysterical with laughter or reduced to a puddle of tears. Fifty-six years ago, Moss Hart was doing the same

Nor will Zambello countenance the idea of the subject-matter being dated. "It's absolutely contemporary. It's about a woman whose professional life and personal life are in crisis, and part of the reason is that she's at the top of her profession. That seems to be a at the top. How far has feminism brought us since 1941? Three steps forwards and six steps back. The ceiling has been raised, and turned into glass - women can only go so

Setting the action in the offices of a fashion magazine is, of course. significant. In 1941 that was a world where women could be successful and empowered. One of the characters is based on Diana Vreeland, then fashion editor of Harper's Bazaar. Fashion was be-



Francesca Zambello tackles the Moss Hart, Kurt Weill and Ira Gershwin musical Lady in the Dark

ginning to evolve as an industry, and Condé Nast brought more than just fashion to the masses. He made people in Iowa aware of Picasso."

some of Hart's text too close to cliché, but then one man's cliché is another man's eternal truth, and some of the one-liners certainly have an "ouch" attached ("You have magazines instead of babies"). Zambello is prepared for this. "If the director creates a world where you believe the characters would say

they aren't clichés any more." A psychoanalyst has been to rehearsals to advise on techniques

things that look like cliches, then

both then and now, and Alexandra

Shulman, the editor of UK Vogue. has also been invited. "What was great was that we were wondering huge budget, a cast of 50 and a stage how Liza could get so far so young. huge budget, a cast of 50 and a stage crew of 40. Zambello has 19 "wonand nere's Alex, a woman in her thirties, for five years editor of a multimillion-dollar Conde Nast publication." But not, Zambello hastens to add, given to her by a sugar-daddy.

Do some of the analytical processes sound a little too pat today? "It's funny how the text comes alive. Everything may seem more obvious to us today than in 1941, but people's lives are still destroyed by their mothers, and if we think we know all about it, then why's everybody still lying down on a couch?"

Comparative intimacy should help. The Broadway Lady had a derrui Bridsh actors, who you'r never think would be in a musical", and they have to work hard, with even more doubling of roles between office and fantasy sequence than in the original. The cast is led by Maria Friedman in the role created by Gertrude Lawrence - so the music should look after itself and Zambello's prime challenge is "to make the book as good as the

● Lady in the Dark opens at the National Theatre. South Bank, SEI (0171-938 2252) on Tuesday

Sing it again, afresh

THE instinctive reaction to seeing Weslia Whitfield car-ried on to the stage is a wellmeaning but patronising surge of compassion. Para-lysed below the waist after being shot by a teenage thug 20 years ago, the San Francis-co vocalist has no need of sympathy. She is quite simply too gifted a performer for that.

Tony Bennett and the cabaret wunderkind Michael Feinstein have both signed up to her fan club, but until now London audiences have had no opportunity to hear her in person. She will have made many more converts by the end of the week.

Her technique is so sound and understated that it is rendered almost invisible. While others choose to approach show tunes as a pretext

CABARET

Weslia Whitfield Pizza on the Park

for unremitting high-wire virtuosity, she takes a more intimate course. Lerner and Loewe's Brigadoon showstop-per Almost Like Being In Love sounded all the more effective for not being oversold, Las Vegas fashion.

Whitfield allowed the words to speak for themselves. A lesser artist might have risked lapsing into perfectly enunciated but emotionally sterile poses. Yet her subtle shading of accents and the thoughtful juxtaposition of moods - from the wry satire of cult composer Dave Frishberg to the unabashed romance of Evry Time We Say Goodbye made this a particularly stimulating and witty journey through the American song-

Clearly a devotee of verses, she used the opportunity to sidle into The Very Thought Of You and This Can't Be Love. Mike Greensill's arrangements for Simon Woolf's double-bass played a crucial role throughout, generating little eddies of rhythm and subtle countermelody beneath her serene voice. It was ironic that she opened with a languorous exploration of I've Heard That Song Before: Whitfield's achievement lies in convincing her listeners that the very opposite is true.

CLIVE DAVIS

THEATRE: Irony underlines a pair of one-act musicals. Plus, a bleak look at social ills

Bittersweet cocktail with quite a kick

IF THE overemphatic title suggests that someone is being ironic about love, that would accurately reflect the authors' intentions. But the more obvious reason for the repetition is that Barry Harman and Keith Herrmann are working in an unusual genre. They have created two one-act musicals. the first based on a short story by that arch-cynic, Schnitzler, the other an updating of a play by his almost equally acid contemporary, Jules Renard.

The French dramatist's Pain de Ménage, or Household Bread, is not much known in Britain; but it was described by the great produc-er and theatrical innovator André Antoine as "a masterpiece worthy of taking its place alongside the most celebrated pieces in the repertoire of the Comédie Française". Librettist Harman and composer Herrmann's foray into the bittersweet is more venturesome than anybody encountering Romance, Romance Gielgud

published text.

Steven Dexter's enjoyably unpretentious production would

In the Schnitzler a wealthy roue and a successful courtesan, weary of the sexual ronde in laid-back Vienna, each decide to look for love in simpler places. Mark Adams's Alfred disguises himself as a poor poet, Caroline O'Connor pretends to be a shopgirl, and the inevitable proceeds to happen. They meet, fall for each other, but cannot long sustain a joint spree in the pastoral outback: It's the sort of spot Cezanne might have wished to sketch. which is why I sleep for hours at a stretch." There's relief in their joint discovery of the truth, not least because they can at last admit that their

love will be temporary. In the Americanised both performers Renard,



All-round talent: Caroline O'Connor and Mark Adams

swap period finery for chequered pants. This time, they are Sam and Monica. platonic friends who begin late at night to admit their boredom with their trusting spouses - "at this hour Lennie could sleep through sex and frequently does" - yet cannot handled ending of the Renard

take the next step; the emotional stakes are just too high. The musical originated in the New York of 1988, a place and time when those mixing bittersweet cocktails were apt to add more sweet than bitter.

That shows in the poorly

- Monica's angry disappointment evaporates like a puddle in summer — and in the pleasantly unacerbic tunes that accompany the Schnitzler. Moreover the show hasn't the informal, intimate feel it reportedly had when it received its British premiere at the tiny Bridewell in September.

But as Adams and O'Connor swished or padded round the stage, followed by their dancing alter egos or watched by their unseen spouses. I found myself succumbing to their spell. He is a nice. relaxed actor-singer, she an all-round talent who more than fulfils the promise she recently showed in Mack and Mabel. I don't often go in for anointing the stars of tomorrow, but her bad-elf face and sly sense of fun force my hand. Here's a performer who will surely delight us for years.

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Give up and move on

THE title sounds like a quote. Likewise the poster, with its image of a resolute woman holding up her strong arm. Of course April de Angelis has chosen her title with irony in mind because neither image nor, I think, title can be used without it except in times of national emergency. The message that we should buckle down, find the solution and create the future by well-planned effort ought to be applicable to problems and emergencies of any scale. Unfortunately it isn't, because there are cases where no solution seems possible, short of annihilation of the

De Angelis goes nowhere as far as human race. suggesting this in Out of Joint's latest production (co-sponsored by Barclays Stage Partners), though she does raise the possibility that annihilation of the wish to care for other people may be the likeliest way to stay calm. Even if

this bleak conclusion need not be drawn from her play, her central character discovers many reasons to consider it the best and fearful choice. She is Miranda, a social worker

whose perennially difficult client is a husband's coat. My clients lives single parent in love with a violent boyfriend. How supportive Margot Leicester's Miranda is, how concerned to show positive courses of action to Julia Lane's dolefully sullen Paula, how gently, encouragingly patient, and how maddening.

Another of her clients is young Nicola (Kate Ashfield, naively gushing), trying to make a life for herself away from her reproachful dad. There is also Emma, a close friend, divorced but still going to bed with her The Positive Hour Hampstead

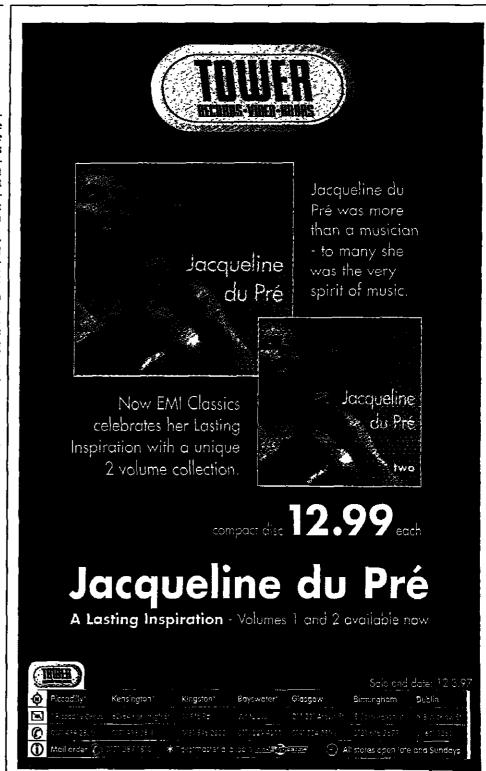
make ours look like heaven," she tells her husband. "Sure," he replies, but since he is played by Robin Soans. unrivalled for the skill with which he can show us disaffected, absurdly selfquestioning males, we can be sure that trouble also looms on the home front.

The scenes are set in Miranda's office, her own home, another home where Patti Love's finally adventurous Emma first tastes the thrills of rubber'n bondage, and one brief interof country calm. Julia

McGowan's design, while keeping the foreground unchanged, alters what we see behind it - bookcases, sculpture, treescape - and so swiftly that Max Stafford-Clark's direction can make the progress of the characters flow smoothly through the play, and easily accommodate the shifts from real distress to bizarrely comic

confrontations. It is a comic play, resting on the sad possibility that what Miranda criticises in others as "giving up", and tries to counter with optimistic thought, may truly be "moving on". Leicester introduces a poignant tremor to her voice as this fear surfaces. Social concern is today not so easy to fulfil in action. Alas. Hence the oddly oldfashioned look of that arm-bending

JEREMY KINGSTON



You must remember this

Sexual abuse of children by adults is a betrayal of trust and a particularly nasty form of exploitation of the weak by the strong. Recent disclosures of "paedophile rings" exchanging information about the availability of children for sexual exploitation and parading their tastes on the Internet have rightly shocked the British public. There is little doubt that the actual incidence of childhood seduction has been underestimated until recently, although no one knows

the exact figures. But, especially in the United States, the pendulum has swung so far in the opposite direction that sexual abuse in childhood is now frequently invoked by dubious therapists as the original cause of almost every form of adult unhappiness. When those seeking help for their problems cannot remember sexual abuse occurring in their childhood, they are told that they have repressed the memory of it, and that, during therapy, they will undoubtedly recall it. They are also encouraged to believe that, by recapturing these painful memories, they will purge themselves of the trauma they have

created in which it is in the interest of both patient and therapist that sexual abuse is recalled, whether or not this actually occurred. Given the inherent unreliability of memory, and the vulnerability to sugges-

tion which cannot be avoided by anyone who becomes a patient receiving psychotherapy, it is not surprising that many patients recall sexual abuse which may never

Pendergrast's book is the most detailed exploration of the "False Memory Syndrome" which I have read. Pendergrast was himself accused of sexually abusing his two daughters, and has entirely lost touch with them on this account. He was so shaken by their accusations that he began to doubt his own integrity; but his detailed investigation into the phenomena of memory restored his faith in himself. "My only real defence is the truth. I didn't sexually abuse my

Anthony Storr

and the United States have allowed the pro-VICTIMS OF liferation of far too MEMORY many so-called "psy-chotherapists". In Incest Accusations and Shattered Lives Britain, efforts to en-sure that no one can By Mark Pendergrast practise psychothera-HarperCollins, E14.99 ISBN 0002556847 py without a proper

training and registration have so far come to nothing. In any case, there can be no absolute safeguards. A well-qualified, formerly respected Harvard psychiatrist shocked his colleagues a few years ago by publishing a book in which he asserted that many of his patients had been abducted and sexually interfered

with by aliens. There is evidence to show that it is not difficult to implant false memories into the minds of normal people. Memory is more unreliable than is generally realised. For example, many people recall striking or amusing incidents from childhood. But do they really remember them, or do they remember what their parents told them? It is often impossible to be sure. As one psychologist wrote: "In the final book; it's like writing a book from fragmentary notes.

Yet "recovered memory" therapists claim that detailed, accurate memories of traumatic sexual events are hidden from the conscious mind, preserved intact by the mechanism of repression and can be disinterred by a variety of therapeutic measures. There is no evidence that such massive repression ever takes place. In fact, those who have been sexually abused as children usually recall their experiences only too vividly, and often wish that they could

O many families have been disrupted by false accusations that "False Memory" Associations exist in Canada. Australia, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Britain and the United States. These groups both investigate the problems raised and counsel those who have suffered in the way described by the author of this book. I commend Pendergrast's courage and objectivity, as well as the thoroughness of his research. I doubt whether any book of greater impor-tance will be published in 1997.

Robert Shepherd traces the road to new Labour



Keep smiling: Tony Blair with Wallace and Gwendolyn from Nick Park's A Close Shave

Everyone's invited this time

att Wright and Tony Carter's illustrated history of the Labour Party offers an admirabclear and informative guide to one of the most remarkable political sagas of the 20th century. The People's Party is a godsend for who want to familiarise themselves quickly with the main events and personalities in Labour's history, but who hitherto have been deterrred by the arcane tomes that confront them. The book includes a brief chronology and a well-chosen guide to further reading.

Readers who are well acquainted with Labour's history will welcome the incorporation in one book of so many evocative illustrations. The reproduction in large print of key quotations by leading politicians and thinkers - among them Sydney Webb, R. H. Tawney, Clem Attlee and Tony Crosland - demonstrates the underlying intellectual force and humanity that have sustained Labour even in its

darkest hours. The authors steer a skilful path through Labour's many convulsions and contortions. but at times their becomes too spare and the passion at the heart of Labour's turbulent history is sacrificed. On the whole, they have produced a balanced history, but their last two chapters offer a Blairite interpretation of Labour's 18-year exclusion from office. Wright co-edited an earlier book with Gordon Brown and is the MP for Cannock, once the seat of the firebrand socialist Jennie Lee, while Carter is a tutor at the University of York and a prospective parliamentary

The People's Party charts Labour's history from the meeting of socialists and trade unionists on February 27, 1900, that established the Labour Representation Committee in order to increase working-class representation in Parliament, to the party's recent rebirth as new Labour. The treatment of this latest twist as being unproblematic likely to annoy old Labour's dwindling band, although the latter will find some consolation in the early chapters that offer a timely reminder, splendidly illustrated, of their party's class origins. The authors are rewarded for their uncritical account of the modernisers' triumph with an appreciative introduction by Tony Blair. Blair contributes one of the

PEOPLE'S PARTY By Tony Wright and Matt Carter

book's more intriguing in-

Thames & Hudson, £18.95 ISBN 0500017689

sights by revealing that a portrait of Keir-Hardie, one of the chief architects of the new Labour Party of nearly a century ago, hangs on the wall of his office. For darts practice, perhaps? - although such a pastime is probably too plebeian for new Labour. The image of Hardie reproduced by Wright and Carter is that of a working-class radical, peering from the front page of an early pamphlet. He is a dead ringer for the left-wing MP and bete noire of new Labour. Jeremy Corbyn.

Yet Blair and Hardie may have more in common than meets the eye. After all, Hardie's pamphlet was entitled, Young Men in a Hurry. He wrote it to help "the average politician to calculate whether or not" the Independent Labour Party, founded in 1893, "was likely to prove permanent or is merely the outcome of some temporary aberration which will pass away as the years bring

wisdom". Whether or not Blair's new Labour will also be the forerunner of a lasting realignment in British politics is a question that is beyond this book's scope. New Labour is the phoenix

that rose from the ashes after Margaret Thatcher had demolished old Labour's trade union and local government citadels. The "radical modernisers," as Wright and Carter describe Blair and his allies, have been better depicted as "neo-Thatcherites", by John Biffen in, of all places, Tribune - political cross-dressing is clearly the vogue. Blair and Brown have accepted Thatcher's farreaching privatisations and her extension of means-testing in the welfare state, Nigel Lawson's 40 per cent top rate of income tax, and the Government's spending limits: Now even the burning desire of Tony Crosland to abolish the (expletive deleted) gram-

mar schools is abandoned.

Wright and Carter appear to have airbrushed from their picture Hugh Gaitskell's Eurosceptic cri de coeur at his last party conference, in which he gave warning that British membership of the EEC would mean "the end of a thousand years of history And although they acknowledge the fragmentation of Labour's working-class support after 1970, they offer no adequate explanation. But the authors remind us that Peter Mandelson, the architect of Labour's new image, is the grandson of Herbert Morrison. Once the stalwart of Labour's old-style right wing, Morrison defined socialism as being whatever a Labour government does. His grandson would never allow anything as dangerously revolutionary to be said about new Labour.

Robert Shepherd's Enoch Powell: A Biography is published by Hutchinson, priced £25.

Tale that bowls along

novel is all about love, and is narrated by an antique bowl. Inanimate but not impartial, it charts women's amorous experiences - what they want and what they get: rarely one and the same. Men are condemned as pretty inanimate themselves, or irredeemable fools. Their intidelity is so quotidian that suspicion is east even on the faithful, who then join in. having nothing to lose. "Like many old men in the grave up to their noses, he is still chewed by lechery" — is a typical sentiment.

Fischer himself is a collector of sorts - of languages: anarchic. jacked-up stuff. It is his gymnastic displays, rather than say, plot, that you pay your money for. His style is to liberate vocabulary from meaning ("Nisaba zami, as we used to dubsar in Lagash"); use playful alliteration ("orifices their offices"): turn nouns into verbs (a lorry "monsters" up) As the dish puts it: "I'm the original, so genuine even the genuine ones look like

This highly ubiquitous dish. BC. IS our eyes and ears in the apartment of art dealer Rosa. To her it "grasses" on miniaturist epistles from antiquity. These stories are labulist and worldly in nature, and being on the theme of love link contextually to Rosa's own, often surreal

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failures in the boyfriend derimeni conirasi wiin mose of her uninvited house guest Nikki. Hooker, drug addict. and accompished liar, all Nikki wants is to be "the girl wrapped in boys" having long given up on love's false trail; and with it. morality too. She loots all Rosa's worldly posses-

the hired assassins of former "บอกเผลร -- one-r - come to try to kill her. The two women develop a tenuous alliance in trying to find the unfindable. Ironic humour is their defence against harm. Tragedy is reinterpreted as comedy

Ideas in art can and do get appropriated. Take Odile, for instance, who, the collector collector explains, wrote Oliver Twist and Madame Bovary in 1834 only to be pipped to the publishers by Dickens and Flaubert. But style, like Fischer's, is less inimitable. The splintered cerebral poetry that marked out his previous novel, The Thought Gang, is evident here too. His personal signature. like that of Iain Sinclair, Martin Amis ("I don't want to write a sentence any other guy

Russell Celyn

THE COLLECTOR COLLECTOR By Tibor Fischer Secker and Warburg, E1299 ISBN 0436204363

can write") has sustained itself over the oeuvre.

The limitation of such clamorous voices sets in when the singer overwhelms the song. Fischer is a satirist whose Babelesque brilliance sometimes eclipses sense. If an ubarum, a naptarum or a mudum wants to sell his beer. the sabitum shall sell the beer for him". And the Ooocos that pepper the text ("Oooorotund", etc.) may be appropriate for a narrator with a cylindrical orifice, but it could just be a keyboard.

The Collector Collectors epicentre is friendship between women, but the book's strength resides in a simple theme working in counterpoint with complex language. Fischer has the intellect and wit of Julian Barnes, who had a similar triumph with A History of the World in 1012 Chapters.

There is a strict and serious hand behind the pen here too. Fischer's narrator has a big mouth, but also a big heart. It makes "interventions in fleshy fortunes" by changing its shape, mantis-like, when favoured owners get into a spot of bother with violence. As it says, in a moment of didactic tenderness: "It is the champions who know nothing of life. Winning is not life, fighting for third place is."

Making the sound of sense

or a time in the mid-1980s, when his poem A Letter won the Arvon Letter won the Arvon Competition, when he and Blake Morrison edited the Penguin Book of Contemporary British Poetry together, and when Penguin published Dangerous Play. his early selected poems, Andrew Motion looked to be in the absolute mainstream of British poetry of the time: writing poems that were talky and oblique, working on a fusion of image, narrative and voice, stealing the clothes of prose fiction.

Since then, having tried and then thrown in — his hand at fiction himself, then rapidly becoming an experi-enced biographer (a triple header of the Lambert family, hìs Larkìn, a shiny new Keats out in a few months), poetry has changed for him, and his own poetry has changed too. One couldn't any longer call him typical. He has left the mainstream and is hacking his way into his own

undergrowth. His books now tend to be longer, and to contain fewer, longer poems (his last volume, The Price of Everything, just two). They like to accommodate prose — the second part of Salt Water, entitled Sailing to Italy. is his prose journal of taking a sailing boat to Rome,



Alastor

Michael Hofmann

SALT WATER By Andrew Motion Faber, £7.99 ISBN 0.571 19019 7

following in the watery footsteps of the dying Keats in 1820. And the verse in them is pured into stout and serviceable forms: rhymed couplets and quatrains, blank verse. Writing about Keats has had an effect too - as writing on Philip Larkin did previously. There are soul-landscapes like The Clearing, a poem about the Thames like Shelley's

What you get in these new poems is a peculiar collision -again, not unlike the Romanrics - between matter and manner. It's as though writing so much prose in the past ten vears has made Motion bigger and bolder and bluffer. He is unfussy and plain-spoken, even impatient, no longer willing or able to wait for the poetic formulation or image. The poems begin loudly and confidently: "This is a long time ago," "I would like to time ago," make if clear." "I won't say much about it now." But at the same time, these robust poems Keats, of the poet's mother, of friends who died in the sinking of the Marchioness and of

They become that strange thing: an almost impersonal pursuit of Motion's innermost feelings of sadness and depression; an unapologetic venting of his own temperament, both in the poems and in the journal, when, for instance, in a flat calm off Trafalgar, he is gripped by a fury: "I want to stick a marlin spike up his arse and throw him to the shark which has just idled past, its fin slick and alert."
As those brilliant adjectives

show. Mution has not lost or given up all his finesse by any means: a rainy day has intermittent "squirts" of hot sun-shine. an aeroplane "drenches" the boat with its noise, a pigeon "stamps" in its howls of water. But Salt Water is characterised less by such subleties of tone and observation then by insistence and volume. "I love it." Motion writes of the river, or, in a poem about a dress: "I hate -I really hate — to think of some other bum/ swinging those heavy flower-heads left to right." It is meant, I think, to be Frost's "the sound of sense". but I hear too much the grinding of gears and spinning of tyres.

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CHANGING TIMES

He did amuse her, at least

Roy Strong on Queen Victoria's beloved Prince Consort, architect of the modern monarchy

ALBERT

By Stanley

Weintraub

once went on holiday with a man whose wife was German. I still recall my amazement when he opened his suitcase revealing, pasted within its lid, a list drawn up by her giving him precise instructions as to what he was to wear each day. This was not the only instance of her well-meant Germanic thoroughness that came to mind as I read the life of Prince Albert. What is it about this younger scion of an im-poverished German duchy which produces a kind of instant mental switch-off?

URSDAY MARCHEL

Here was a consort seemingly ideal for an age, a Victorian new man who not only loved his wife but was also loyal to her, who went on to educate her, who, in addition, was unstintingly devoted

to good causes and good works, to education, science, technology and the arts besides having a commitment to improving the lot of the lower orders. But yet he never captures the heart or the

imagination. And that is not because he has been tarnished by a posthumous verdict, the result of two wars against Germany in this century, for it was a view that was firmly subscribed to within his own Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Go-

tha was the younger son of the ruler of a duchy half the size of the Isle of Wight, one of those tiny Thuringian states which had produced a long line of Hanoverian consorts. His father was no model prince and his mother vanished into exile for an indiscretion. It was an unhappy childhood, but Albert was precocious and responded to a formidable education. The Coburgs were not only bright but pushy. Uncle Leopold had been married to George IV's daughter. Charlotte, and after her demise became King of the

By 1836 it was clear that his niece, Victoria, would succeed and that she would need a have predicted was that she would be besotted by him, epitomised by the famous line in her journal: "It was with some emotion that I beheld Albert — who is beautiful." It is clear that he must have been wonderful in bed, for even in that reticent age the Queen made no secret of the fact that his early demise had curtailed these delights. For the rest of her life she had to make do

with hugging his nightshirt. In his role as royal superstud nine children followed and the Queen, who never had much of a head for business, let the Prince gradually take over the affairs of government. By the 1840s royal power had already been reduced to warning and advising, but Albert's preoccupation was to prevent any further erosion. Indeed, in foreign affairs he seems to have crossed the constitutional borderline with a passionate commitment to German unifi-

The Prince Consort was certainly Albert the Good, hard-working to excess, dedicated and devoted, but he was

also humourless. Roy Strong lacking the common touch and was never truly popular. The Uncrowned King ability to delegate seems to have been totally John Murray, £25 missing, his time ISBN 07195 57569 often being wasted on minutiae

like designing

the VC medal and hats for army officers. And he emerges as curiously friendless. That failure to evoke affection is reflected in the fact that he was accorded the title Prince Consort by the Queen, Victoria realising that Parliament would never grant it.

ut he did undoubtedly change the face of the monarchy from being too often frivolous to being dull but worthy. Here came together what has kept his successors on the throne: the support of charities, the association with national enterprises, the honouring of heroes, the exemplary domestic life. To achieve that he isolated the Crown from the old upper classes, rendering it seemingly bourgeois. He also cultivated retreat — Balmoral and Osborne are monuments to that. Even today ministers have to grind their way to inaccessible areas of the island. And although his public chilly as one of the iron columns of his Crystal Palace, the Great Exhibition of 1851 his child more than anyone else's -- has come to symbolise

the triumphs of an age. Stanley Weintraub is a diligent and painstaking biogra-pher and here it all is, but he is



هدا من الاصلا

Landseer's portrait of Victoria and Albert, dressed as Queen Philippa and Edward III for a costume ball in 1842

saddled with the problem that his hero falls short. This is a fine, well-researched life but, alas, Albert fails to live up to the prince of romance of Laurence Houseman's plays which Weintraub quotes from nme to ume. The author also suffers from the deficiency that being American he writes from outside rather than in. Beautiful Albert may have been, but he was also stiff and unbending. Already running to seed by his early thirties. balding, puff-faced and portly.

it is interesting to speculate

what would have happened had he lived to a ripe old age. We would at least have been spared all those statues which his widow spent her time unveiling. The British have always been chary of the interfering consorts of their Queens from Philip II of Spain down to Philip. Duke of Edinburgh. And in that perhaps they've been right.

Sir Roy Strong was Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, 1974-87: his latest book, The Story of Britain, is published by Hutchinson, priced £35.

Lover of both faith and reason he philosopher Peter Roger Scruton admires a thinker universals. like the colour

who found salvation in philosophy lover of Héloise, and the greatest of love's victims, who was not granted even the escape-clause enjoyed by Tris-THE PHILOSOPHY tan, Lancelot. Romeo and the OF PETER ABELARD thousand other men who have By John Marenbon died for love while still able to Cambridge University make it. In his day, however. Press. £40 ISBN 0521553970 Abelard was more famous as a teacher of logic, and notorious less for his tragic affair than for his heretical doctrines. It is to unite ancient philosophy uncertain who wrote the letand Christian religion. In an

Abelard (10/9-1142) Wil

always be famous as the

Héloïse; but John Marenbon

mounts a credible case for

What is certain is that

tion, brought about by Hélo-

up the monastic life. There-

works to his wife, who at his request had become a nun.

Héloise rose to be prioress, as

Abelard became abbot, but

their story resides less in the

religious quietus that they both finally achieved, than in

Tatunes — the Historia

Calamitatum. His purpose in doing so was not to dwell on

his tragic loss but to put it

hehind him, so as to devote

himself to the religious life.

However, conflicts of doctrine

and personality with the all-

powerful St Bernard left him

in danger of excommunication

Christianity was not yet

inoculated against the virus of

philosophy, and Abelard, who

was one of the first to construct

a theological system based in

Aristotelian logic - or what

could be understood of Aristo-

telian logic, from the frag-

ments then available - was

less cautious than he might

have been in his theological

conclusions. He was a bril-

liant teacher who returned to

for heresy.

belard wrote his own

account of his misfor-

its tumultuous beginnings.

their authenticity.

ters between Abelard and age dominated by educated clergy such a person was bound to be seen as a threat. Abelard's admiration for the pagan philosophers led him to Abelard was not merely the lover of his former pupil, but find in their writings, anticipations of the leading Chrisalso her husband, and the tian doctrines. And he saw the father of her son. His castraancient virtues as stages on the way to Christian salvation.

ise's wicked guardian and uncle, caused Abelard to take Čentral to Abelard's ethics is another ancient idea: that man is distinguished from the rest of nature by his rationality. The rational being has free after he addressed many of his will, and with it the choice between salvation and damnation. The truths of religion must be perceivable to reason. if we are freely to believe them; philosophy must therefore show the rational basis even for the most daunting of religious ideas - such as the Trinity. Reason will tend of its own accord towards these religious ideas - and Abelard was comforted to find a version of the Trinity in Plato. John Marenbon has buried himself in Abelard's writings

and in the writings of his contemporaries, and produced what must be the most schol-Abelard's ideas. Recent British philosophy has noticed Abelard not so much as a Christian theologian, still less as an icon of early medieval culture, but as a precursor of the "analytical" approach, which puts language and logic first. Being a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, where this approach began, Marenbon is heavily influenced by it. He emphasises Abelard's nominalism (his belief that

only individuals exist, and that

Abelard and his Héloise

blue, are no more than words), his discussions of possibility and necessity, and the places where he anticipated recent developments in logic and the philosophy of language.

Many readers will find these topics rather dull, and I am not sure that Marenbon is himself entirely switched on by them. Still, his is a work of scholarship. The footnotes in-vade up to half of the page. and there are no jokes. I suppose that is the price you pay for a serious book on Abelard. Marenbon's accounts of the theology, of free will and the problem of evil are well worth the effort required to get to them, and my only reservation concerns the author's nervous habit of looking over his shoulder at other scholars, acknowledging them whenever he can in a footnote. This seriously impedes the flow of the argument. Abelard was not so polite to those with whom he disagreed, partly because, unlike Marenbon, he was genuinely offended by

falsehood of their views. And that, in the end, is the true reason for returning to medieval philosophy. For it was philosophy written in the heat of conviction, by people who thought that their salva-tion and their happiness depended on their conclusions. Marenbon awakens an intense longing for that kind of philosophy, largely because he does not provide it.



The darlings of a glamorous crowd: Bell with Joan Collins in 1989 - he had compared her to another woman for whom he had admiration, Margaret Thatcher

of his conviction for indecent exposure in 1977, and his use of cocaine from then until the early 1980s, are included. But As such, Bell merits a bioghis cocaine problem was hardly a secret in the political and media world and is treated by Hollingsworth in a generally sympathetic way in the context of his personal stress at a time when he was falling out with the Saatchi brothers. He also

acknowledges his happy family life now. Indeed, Hollingsworth has in some ways fallen for Bell's outrageous and indiscreet charm, which one colleague says reminded him of an extremely powdered and panipered courtesan". Bell has an Instances where Bell's adability to put the powerful at their ease and understood that the way to treat Margaret Thatcher was as a woman, flirting with her and making

her laugh. No one disputes the success of Lowe Bell Communications. But the question remains, what was Sir Tim Bell's contribution to politics? He was part of that group of Thatcher courtiers, also including GorPeter Riddell

THE ULTIMATE SPIN DOCTOR The Life and Fast Times of Tim Bell By Mark Hollingsworth Hodder & Stoughton, £20 ISBN 03406169711

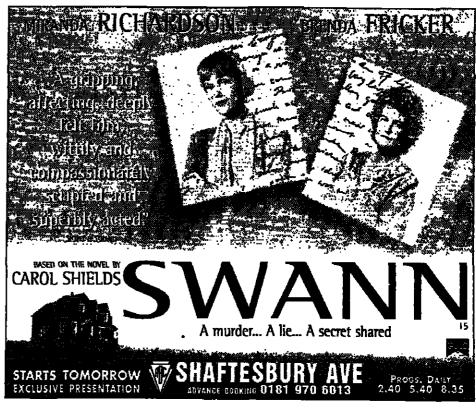
don Reece. Maurice Saatchi. Alistair McAlpine, David Young and, on the fringes, Jeffrey Archer, who were mainly of service to her personally. Apart from Young, they had no influence on the development of Thatcherism. The real heavyweights of the Thatcher years were Keith Joseph as a prophet. Geoffrey Howe. Nigel Lawson and Norman Tebbit as policymakers, and Willie Whitelaw as the vital political engineer. After the departure of the latter and her falling out with Howe, Lawson and Tebbit. she was doomed. The courtiers, like Bell, never really understood this because they

were besotted with her.

These courtiers all exaggerated the importance of adverrising and of political campaigns. Most were involved in the entirely unnecessary panies which were regular features of the Thatcher elections. Hollingsworth quotes the scepticism of the redoubtable Sir Bernard Ingham, who was always suspicious of Bell's role and doubted the value of his advice, and of Nigel Lawson. In his memoirs. Lawson is dismissive of importance of campaigns and of paid advertising. Quoting Dr Johnson, he describes the relative contributions to the 1987 victory of the rival advertising agencies battling for Mrs Thatcher's ear as of "a louse and a flea".

Sir Tim Bell and Lord Saarchr are involved again this time, in what may be the Last Hurrah for the old guard, But, as in previous campaigns, the election may depend less on advertising and fixing a few editors than on the public's verdiet built up over several years which even Sir Tim's charmi cannot change.

teaching whenever the opportunity arose. And he was a remarkable thinker, who anticipated the Thomist attempt **NEW AUTHORS PUBLISH YOUR WORK** ALL SUBJECTS CONSIDERED Fiction, Non-Fiction, Biography, Religious, Poetry, Children's. AUTHORS WORLDWIDE INVITED. MINERVA PRESS



to be tempted by lost love IT IS hard not to visualise

It's not unusual

Nina Bawden's new novel as a rollicking television series along the lines of A Year in Provence or (better) Nice Work, which at once indicates its weakness as well as the strength of story and amiable lightness of touch. The jacket blurb claims the novel is "reminiscent of A Midsummer Night's Dream" in the unlikeliness of its couplings, yet the comparison must be rejected, if only because in A Nice Change there is nothing of the patronising cruelty dished out to Bottom by the tedious fairies. Bawden's world is benign; little

permitted shadow its Aegean sun. A motley crowd of tour-

ists boards the hotel minibus at the airport.

Greek package holiday. Bawden introduces her cast with vivid economy: the Labour MP Tom Jones and his wife Amy. Tom's former mistress Portia, the American publisher Philip, the young doctor Prudence, an odd British couple called Mr and Mrs Boot, and a set of elderly, elegant and enigmatic twins, the Farrell sisters. Later, at the hotel, they are added to in the shape of Prudence's tiresome grandmother, and Tom's likeable father Vic.

the name Tom Jones is oddly distracting: perhaps irony is intended since the testy, middle-aged MP, recovering from an operation on his piles, is far removed from both changeling charmer and crooner. For Jones, the accidental presence of his ex-mistress on this tour is unbelievable and threatening; for Portia there is pleasure both in his discomfort and in the fact that she can be friendly to

the wife - who has no knowledge that she was the anonymous mistress of the past. Amy herself is afflicted with sexual longing for the handsome American, Philip. while he, recovering from the suicide of his wife, is drawn to the sensible young doctor Prudence and finds youth as well as love again. The Boots are comic caricatures; the Farrell sisters creations of genius who merit a novel to themselves rather than just an incidental role in the

The stage is set, and if these mortals are fools, there is no sense of a deus ex machina that Bel Mooney makes them so, nor of any

central Jones/Portia story.

serious innate stupidity, or CHANGE By Nina Bawden ness, leading Virago, £15.99 them into temptation.

They are only complicated enough for the twists of the story; there is nothing within them to change one's perception of the world. For some readers this will be a relief; for others a frustration — the lack of any real inner life in these characters is a flaw. Philip's personal tragedy is not dwelt on; it is the means by which he is propelled into a new life. The staleness within the Jones marriage is not explored to any proper degree. Leave that for other writ-

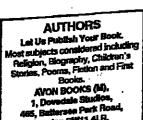
ers. Bawden's agenda is The double resonance of different here; she is propelling us towards a happy ending as surely as she places her characters in its way. They are particles bouncing around the Universe, stumbling upon hap-piness by accident if they are lucky, and not hurting each other much in between. Their mysteries and longings are sorted out, and Bawden manages at once to convey the randomness of things and a sense of design at the heart of the Universe.

Fleas, lice admen

ir Tim Bell is a brilliant salesman, on behalf of himself as well as his clients, particularly Margaret Thatcher. She was, and is, for Bell what Irene Adler was for Sherlock Holmes, "the woman". Sir Tim (knighted in the Thatcher resignation Honours List) has graduated from being one of the main architects of the success of the original Saatchi and Saatchi to being the confidant and adviser to the rich and famous in times of trouble and stress. He is what would have been described as a man of business or a contact man, a superb fixer in that incestuous world of Tory businessmen and newspaper editors.

raphy, though he discouraged Mark Hollingsworth from writing this one. Hollingsworth has written several books on the seamier side of politics and an unauthorised study of Mark Thatcher, without question the most disliked person in the Thatcher circle. But this book is far from a hatchet job, though it lacks the balance that would have come from Bell's co-operation and there are several niggling inaccuracies, particularly on

vice did not work and details



The French connection

styles and techniques is apparent throughout the fair. An early 18th-century marquetry box by the German craftsman Johann Puch-

wiser is decorated in the Parisian Boulle manner with tortoiseshell and mother-of-pearl (Blumka). One of the greatest German makers was David Roentgen, represented by a severely elegant Louis XVI mahogany commode with gilded-bronze mounts (Daxer & Marschall).

The sweeter mid-century rococo style shown in a Louis XV gilt-mounted marquetry desk by Francis (by Fr cois Mondon (Gierhards) is echoed by a set of yellow lacquer Italian serpentine-backed Piedmontese chairs with original needlework covers (Pelham). The English Palladian

style is apparent from the architectural appearance of a George II mahogany cupboard attributed to William Hallett, about 1740 (Axel Vervoordt). The German architect Karl Friedrich Schinkel designed a large elm and mahogany secretaire made Guillaume Wilhelm Dreusike, 1842 (Camoin-Demachy). Also in light-coloured marquetry, this

THE profound influence on time in ash burl and ama-Europe of French furniture ranth and a decade or two earlier, from the France of Charles X, comes a set of furniture including sofas, chairs and a games table (N

Henry II (J Zeberg). Only a Chinese emperor could have possessed a large lacquer casket carved with dragons; it is from the Quianlong per-iod, c. 1736-1795 (Ben

sensibilities will glow at the

mannerist carving, associated with the School of Fon-

tainebleau, of the figures on a late 16th-century walnut

cupboard from the time of

PORCELAIN AND POTTERY: Overseas trade with China is illus-trated by a pair of 18th-century Qin Dynasty porcelain candlesticks made in a shape derived from contemporary European silver examples (Luis Alegria). From the Tang dynasty, 618-907 AD, is a remarkable earthenware figure of an entertainer (Gisele Croes).

SILVER: Unmistakably English in style are three Queen Anne silver casters by Charles Adams, 1703 (Koopman) as, in its different way, is an oval George III silver-gilt tray by Ben-jamin Smith, 1804, with a wide border pieced and chased with grapes and leaves (S.J. Phillips).

DAVID COOMBS

Europe's premier fine art and antiques fair celebrates its tenth birthday next week.

Surely the biggest, certainly the best

A Ithough the European Fine Art Fair at Maas-tricht is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year, its origins can be traced to 1975 when a series of fairs was launched in the Dutch city. with alternate years devoted solely to paintings or to

In 1985, a longer-established rival fair at Delft was discon-tinued and Maastricht's alternating events were merged into one annual fair. Then in 1988, the European Fine Art Foundation took over the event in what was, in effect, a buyout by the exhibitors — and at that point a regional fair became not only the leading European event but, for many, the world fair. Maastricht, between Bel-

gium and Germany with Luxembourg and France almost within view and London a convenient distance away, is the perfect location for what remains primarily a northern European fair. The picture section is dominated by the Dutch and German schools, with the French and British in attendance. (Richard Green, Johnny Van Haeften, Noortman and Marlborough Fine Arts are among the dealers exhibiting). The love affair with the Orient carried on with the East Indian companies of Holland, Britain and France as intermediaries dur-ing the 17th and 18th centuries is evident among the porcelain and works of art, as is the later

The original 1975 picture fair brought together 29 dealers representing six countries. This year there are 167 exhibitors from 13 countries, and the simple division between fine and plastic arts has grown to seven categories: pictures, drawings and prints; antiques and works of art; textiles: antiquities; manuscripts, books and maps; jewellery; and 20th-century art.

Belgian fascination with Afri-

The private view night brings together not just the rich, the very rich and the seriously rich, but museum curators, from around the world, scholars, dealers and more modest collectors. In contrast to a saleroom, where the auctioneer's opinion alone may govern attribution and few if any guarantees are given, every item at Maas-tricht comes from a leading

vetted by peers, competitors

Because of the northern bias, there are comparatively few Italian paintings on offer. But one man who will show some Italian works, including a portrait of a lady by Bernar-dino de' Conti (cl470-1523), is Rob Smeets, a Dutchman with

a gallery in Milan.

A Dutch painting which could symbolise the opening night of the fair has been brought back to Europe by Jack Kilgore of New York. It is Village Wedding by Jan Steen. The groom greets his fiancee at her house before they proceed to the church. Below is celebration, but up above her father and his notary scan the marriage contract.

The furniture on show is

more varied than anyone used to national fairs might expect. English oak items brought by Huntington Antiques of Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, and an elegant Ming piece shown by Grace Wu Bruce of Hong Kong, take their place with French, Italian, Dutch and Austro-German items.

Perhaps the most unexpect-but in many ways



Bernardino de' Conti's Portrait of a Lady (Rob Smeets)

welcome — stand is that of Andrew Bruce, the London wine consultant, whose offerings are works of art indeed. Those with shorter pockets need not be deterred by the

finery on show. [have only

bought two items during the past ten years, but I consider both to have been bargains. I. am also immensely the richer for my annual visits.

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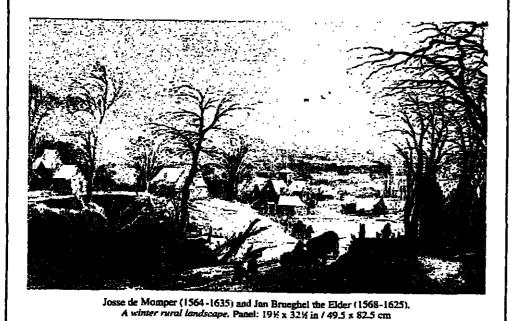
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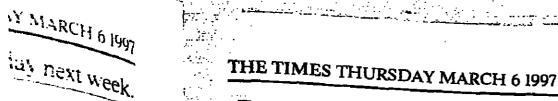
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INDER BEICE ME



For serious dealers, collectors, historians and browsers, it is an unmissable event

Miracles in ivory, metal and lacquer

ional collection. This year it is drawn from the treasuries and museums of Maastricht itself and nearby cities, and consists of fine examples of medieval ivory carving - a craft which once flourished in the region. especially in the early 17th century. These unbuyable reliquaries, reliefs and other intricately carved pieces serve as an introduction to the works of art in the fair -- all of which are for sale.



The Maastricht fair is from March 8-16.

Eurostar (0345 303030) runs Waterloo-Brussels, then a shuttle takes visitors via Brussels Airport to the fair (the shuttle must be booked, ring 00 31 73 614 5165).

The centrepiece of the fair is a loan exhibition.

Often from a great natmarble, including a Saxon polychrome wooden altarpiece of about 1515 framing an Adoration of the Magi which was once in the collection of the Dukes of Norfolk. More sculpture in clay,

wood, ivory and bronze from the early loth to the mid-18th centuries will be shown by Julius Böhler of Munich. A 36cm 16th-century bronze figure of Jupiter demonstrates that a fine physique is not necessarily body-built ugli-ness, while a baroque ivory bowl and cover carved with river deities by Balthasar Griessmann around 1660 shows the wonderful versatility of the material.

Robert Bowman of London continues the story with 19th and 20th-century sculptures. including this year a delicious 21cm Degas bronze of a dancer, from the edition of 22 cast shortly after his death. Each year I hurry to the stand of Luis Elvira from

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Castellon, Spain, who specialises in intriguing metal artefacts. Usually there are extraordinary little boxes with intricate locks and beautiful, elaborate, keys. This year, a contrast in both scale and simplicity, there is also a pair of wrought iron and elm palace doors made in China

Among the inevitable blueand-white and armorial wares on the Oriental stands, Vanderven & Vanderven of 's-Hertogenbosch rarely fail to provide something to intrigue. One such is a Tang terracotta figure of a Lokapala, or tomb-

around 1510.

guardian. This creature has a which means it may have been mostly human body, a monmade for the Emperor key head with flaming hair and massive teeth, and three claw-like fingers. It may be only 28cm high, but it intimi-

Oil on panel by Jan van Goyen (1596-1656), from leading British dealer Richard Green

dates as intended.

The ultimate accessory for Turandot at Glyndebourne is to be found with Ben Janssens of London. It is a red lacquer picnic-set richly carved with imperial five-clawed dragons sporting in waves. It is fitted with trays and a gilt bronzelined teapot, caddy and bowls. No other Qianlong period (1736-1795) casket is known with such unusual contents,

ه ي اون الاعليم

Many stands carry a mixed stock, and the conjunctions and contrasts can be pleasurable. An instance is Pieter Hoogendijk of Baarn in the Netherlands, whose entry in the catalogue has a stately 12th-century Khmer Buddha apparently declining the offer of a swirling shell-shaped silver-gilt bowl made in 1628 by Christiaen van Vianen, a member of a distinguished line of smiths.

HUON MALLALIEU

A treasure-trove of books

OF THE seven categories of Shapero, has on offer a exhibits at Maastricht, argu-wealth of spectacular items. ably the most eagerly-awaited by serious collectors and dealers is the rare books division. Although there are several fine and rare book fairs in Europe and America each year, few have such an extraordinary variety of

Amid such an embarrassment of riches, one offering from Les Enluminures of Paris cries out to be noticed: a stunning illuminated manuscript, The Boswell Book of Hours, produced in either Northern France or Flanders. (possibly Bruges) c 1460-70. This contains 172 complete folios, ten full-page miniatures and various elaborate initials and borders - the primary media are gouache and highly burnished gold leaf on parchment. The binding is contemporary, and the price is \$100,000.

Another superb illuminated manuscript is offered by Antiquariat Jorno Günher of Hamburg: Petrarch's Seven Penitential Psalms, the illuminations by The Master of Grimani Brevier. This Bruges script is also in its original binding, and dates back to c 1505.

As one has come to expect, London dealer Bernard Probably the most magnifi-cent is Delle Loggie Di Rafaele Nel Vaticano (Rome, 1772-76) — two parts in one elephantine folio comprising 30 huge and splendid engraved plates depicting Raphael's frescoes in

the Vatican. There are many

Lithograph by George Angas (Bernard Shapero)

double sheet-plates and a wonderful panoramic view of the entire gallery made up of three sheets - all finely and richly hand-coloured. This covetable volume is priced at £65,000.

Shapero's wide, first-rate range also includes a first edition of a mid 19th-century work, regarded as the best contemporary illustrated

portrayal of Hong Kong. It is Auguste Borget's La Chine et les Chinois (Paris, 1842). This large-folio volume comprises 32 views on 25 sepia lithographed plates, and offers fine views of Hong

Kong, Macao and Canton, concentrating on the realities of everyday life. In the publisher's original morocco-backed cloth, the folio is offered at £14,500.

Also from Shapero is a fine set of 30 hand-coloured lithographs of black southern Africans, a first edition, in large folio, by George French Angas, produced in London in 1849. Angas, who spent two years in southern Africa, later produced works on the Australian Aborigines and the New Zealand Maoris. This volume — in modern half morocco with raised bands and gilt

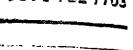
edges — is £6,750. One unusual from London dealer Sam Fogg Rare Books and Manuscripts, is a rare 15th-century English alabaster altar

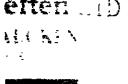
piece. A further attraction of the fair is that the buyer can relax , knowing that every item has been vetted for quality and authenticity: so, buy with confidence.

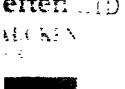
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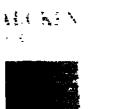
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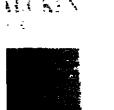
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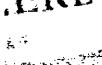










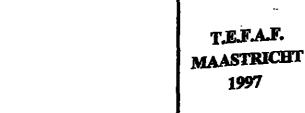














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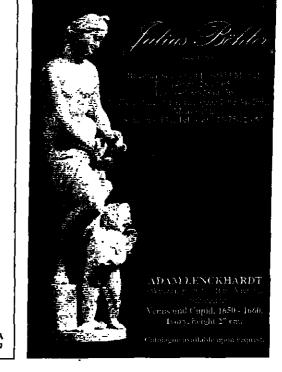
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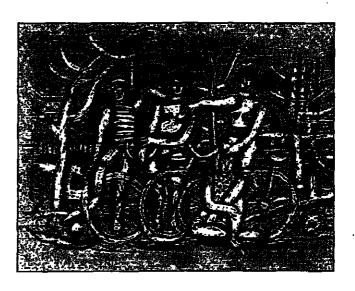


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in any part of the UK on which the

obligation to assist was cast. Those

courts had their usual jurisdiction

and powers and there was nothing

The purpose of subsection (5)

was not to reduce that jurisdiction

or powers but for the purposes of

(4) only to extend them. Thus the court in England faced with a

request from a relevant country

could in respect of the matters

specified in the request apply either the insolvency law of the

country concerned or its own

Subsection (5) introduced the

hypothesis that the matters speci-

fied in the request fell within the jurisdiction of the court applying

"comparable matters" would do

Thus there was available to the

court in England when asked for

assistance under section 426, (a) its

own general jurisdiction and pow-

ers and either (b) the insolvency

law of England and Wales or (c) so

country as corresponded to that comprised in (b).

(a) the court in England was

entitled to apply such law on the

hypothesis as to iurisdiction

oncerning the matters specified in

It seemed to his Lordship that on

that construction the evident inten-

tion of Parliament was given effect to without distorting the language

Lordship disagreed with Mr Jus-tice Knox as to the proper

That conclusion largely disposed

of the second issue. The purpose of

subsection (5) was to extend the

of subsection (10). According

in the case of (b) and (c) but not

insolvency law.

in section 426 to exclude either.

Insolvency assistance request

Hughes and Others v Hannover Ruckversicherungs-Aktiengesellschaft

Before Lord Justice Roch, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice

[Judgment January 28]

When faced with a request for assistance under section 426 of the Insolvency Act 1986 a court in England had available its own common law as well as the statutory insolvency law of England and Wales or of the request ing country. The court had to consider in accordance with those three sources of law whether the request might properly be granted and in cases where discretion was to be exercised the request could

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment when dismissing an appeal by Chris-topher Hughes, David Lines and Peter Mitchell against an order of Mr Justice Knox on April 3, 1996 declining to continue injunctive relief in respect of any and all jurisdictions outside England and Wales as sought in a letter of request from the Supreme Court of

The appellants were joint proisional liquidators of a company who wished to restrain proceed ings against that company issued by Hannover Ruckversicherungs-

Section 426 of the Insolvency Act 1986 provided: "(4) The courts having jurisdiction in relation to insolvency law in any part of the United Kingdom shall assist the jurisdiction in any other part of the United Kingdom or any relevant

"(5) For the purposes of sub-

Before Sir Stephen Brown, Presi-

dent. Lord Justice Hobbouse and

The test to be applied when

deciding on the most appropriate

forum in matrimonial proceedings

was the statutory test of a balance

of fairness including convenience.

when allowing the wife's appeal from the refusal by Judge Good-

man, sitting as a deputy High

Court judge, on November 30, 1995

to grant a stay in respect of the

in the United Kingdom on March

The wife had instituted divorce

The Court of Appeal so held

Butler v Butler

Lord Justice Ward

(Judgment February 19)

court in any part of the United Kingdom by a court in any other part of the United Kingdom or in a relevant country is authority for the court to which the request is made to apply, in relation to any matters specified in the request, the insolvency law which is ap-plicable by either court in relation to comparable matters falling

rithin its jurisdiction.

(10) In this section insolvency law' means — (a) in relation to England and Wales, provision made by or under this Act or sections 6 to 10, 12, 15, 19(c) and 20 with Schedule I) of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 198 and extending to England and Wales ... (d) in relation to any relevant country or territory, so much of the law of that country or territory as corresponds to pro-visions falling within any of the

foregoing paragraphs." Mr Gabriel Moss, QC and Miss Susan Prevezer for the appellants; Mr Martin Pascoe for Hannover.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that the issues arising concerning construction were: I What was comprised in the words "insolvency law" as defined in subsection (10)?

2 What was the interrelationship between subsections (4) and (5) with regard to the ability of the courts in England to assist the courts of the other parts of the UK or of the relevant countries or

3 What was the nature and extent the obligation imposed by subsection (4)? The provisions of section 426

had been considered in three reported cases, two of which were considered in the judgment under appeal: see Re Dallhold [1992] BCLC 621); Re Bank of Credit and 9) (11994) 2 BCLC 636) and Re

Appropriate forum for

matrimonial case

proceedings in Florida on April 27.

1995 and contended that, on the

facts. Florida was the more conve-

Mr Thomas Brudenell for the

wife: Mr Martin Pointer, QC and Mr Nigel Dyer for the husband.

THE PRESIDENT said that

there there were competing pe-

titions for divorce in two jurisdic-

tions, matters were regulated by

section 5(6) and paragraph 9(1) of Schedule 1 to the Domicile and

Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1973.

Although on the facts it was clear that the parties' life together

had centred on Florida, the trial

iudge had erroneously considered.

relying on Chatelard v Chatelard

(unreported, October 24, 1988) that

nient forum.

Focus Insurance Company ([1996] BCC 659).

In his Lordship's view, a historical survey of the authorities and statutory predecessors of section 426 revealed a number of material

propositions. The assistance afforded to the requesting court was the result of an exercise of the English court's general equitable jurisdiction. The orders made recognised that issues would have to be determined by due process of law.

It was not Parliament's intention when enacting section 426 to restrict the jurisdiction or ability of the courts in England to afford assistance to other courts in the UK or other relevant countries and

Cases decided under earlier legislation were all ones where the court exercised general jurisdic-tion, whereas those decided under section 426 were examples of the court exercising jurisdiction ferred specifically by the Insolvency Act or of its general powers ancillary to such jurisdiction. It seemed to his Lordship on the

first issue of construction that the

wording of subsection (10) was

such as to supply a complete definition. Thus it stated what the words "insolvency law" meant, not what they included. Further, the words "provisions made by or under this Act did not in their normal meaning include provisions made by some quite ferent Act such as the general

section 37 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 The earlier statutory provisions might be exercised was not limited. The position under section 426 was

power to grant injunctions under

Reference to "insolvency law" in

the wife had not shown that the

Florida forum was clearly or

distinctly more appropriate and

had taken into account various

irrelevant procedures relating to

The statutory discretion could

only be set aside it it could be

shown the trial judge was plainly

Here the connection with Flor-

ida was so overwhelming that it

was cleasely the appropriate fo-

rum. Accordingly, the appeal would be allowed and the English

Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord

Justice Ward delivered concurring

Solicitors: Fladgate Fielder; Gor-

Florida law.

iurisdiction of the court. In relation to the third issue, the obligation to assist was imposed on a court and not some executive agency. The function of the court was to consider whether in accordance with the three sources of law identified as (a), (b) and (c) above the assistance might properly be granted.

His Lordship did not think that the request could ever be conclusive as to the manner in which the exercised.

The assistance should be given if, in accordance with the law to be applied, the relief sought could properly be granted.

In cases requiring the exercise of a discretion the fact of the request was a weighty matter to be taken into account but it could not eigh all others.

His Lordship would approve Re Dalihold. Re BCCI No 9 and Re Focus Insurance Ltd.

Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Roch agreed. Solicitors: Freshfields; Lovell

Defects in disciplinary procedure

Rugby Football Union Before Mrs Justice Ebsworth

Dudgment February 27

was arguable that failure by a rugby union's disciplinary committee either to allow a player to challenge by question or evidence the factual basis of the allegation against him or to vary its procedures for viewing video evidence without good reason was unfair. A player challenging such unfair treatment should not be suspended from playing pending resolution of Mrs Justice Ebsworth so stated

in a judgment given in open court the request of the parties owing a hearing in chambers in the Queen's Bench Division when granting Mark Jones, a player with Ebbw Vale RFC, the second plaintiff, an injunction lifting a four-week suspension imposed on December 10, 1996 by the Weish Rugby Football Union's disci-plinary committee. Mr Jones had been sent off for fighting in a match with Swansea RFC on November 9, 1996. He subequently appeared before a disciplinary committee to make entations concerning the referee's report. The committee im-

Mr William Norris for the plaintiffs; Mr Wvn Williams, QC, for the Welsh RFU

MRS JUSTICE EBSWORTH said that the plaintiffs complained that the disciplinary proceedings were fundamentally unfair: in summary that the plaintiffs were unrepresented in real terms and that the professional game needed

a more formalised procedure. Mr Norris submitted that in a disciplinary context in professional sport, from which economic and other consequences might flow. representations by lawvers should be an option the Welsh RFU was prepared to consider. The existing procedures were

found in the constitution of the Welsh RFU which devolved power in relation to discipline to a mittee operating under resolution 13. The rules gave the com-mittee effectively complete discretion over the form of their might invite attendance of tation and could call witnesses if asked to do so.

The rules were sufficiently wide made to them to hear particular witnesses or receive relevant evidence, it was inquisitorial but that equate to do justice. Mr Norris did not argue for an

adversarial system. He submitted that the present system gave the player no rights. The player was entirely within the hands of the

court to look at how the body actually exercised its powers as set out in the procedural document circulated prior to the hearing and to conclude it was lacking in basic

In her Ladyship's judgment, the issue was whether the committee applied the rules with an undue rigidity and whether or not the iles were unfair. Her Ladyship found that there was nothing i rule 13 requiring the committee to view a film or video of the incident

It was clearly arguable that the committee was wrong to refuse to vary its procedure for no other reason than that it did not do things that way. It seemed to her Ladyship that it was also properly arguable that a system which in effect prohibited a party from challenging by question or by evidence the factual basis of the allegation against him on its face lacked basic fairness.

Her Ladyship was satisfied that those procedural defects, taken in the context of a professional sport amounted to an arguable case that the plaintiffs' right to defend themselves properly and eff-ectively was denied them. Her Ladyship accepted on the

basis of Ridge v Baldwin [1964] AC 40) that to act with such fairness

Her Ladyship did not have to go beyond that before deciding whether it was proper to exercise discretion to grant an injunction.

Sport was now big basiness; many people earned their living from it in one way or another. It would be naive to pretend that the modern world of sport could be conducted as it used to be not very many years ago. It was not relevant a to express a view as to the conduct the committee dealt with and the merits of the sanction imposed, but it was clear that the it had economic consequences for both plaintiffs.

Applying the well established rinciples upon which a man-atory injunction could be granted; was the wrong quanti-liable in terms that would make damages an adequate remedy? Loss of wages could be calimponderables. It was a case where the practical reality re-

quired the suspension to be lifted until the issue was determined between the parties: to do so would not cost the Welsh RFU money. relief to the club because it did not seek representation at the hearing. Her Ladyship would grant inter-locutory relief to Mr Jones.

Solicitors: Field Fisher Waterhouse; Hugh James Jones &

Cost of release of covenants deductible

Garner (Inspector of Taxes) v Pounds Shipowners and Shipbreakers Ltd Same v Pounds

Before Mr. Justice Carpwath (Judgment February 21)

In computing the amount of the chargeable gain accruing from the grant of an option to purchase development land, expenditure incurred by the owners of the land to secure the release of restrictive covenants that affected it was deductible from the amount of the consideration paid to them in return for granting the option.

Mr Justice Carnwath so held in the Chancery Division dismissing the Crown's appeal and uphold-ing, but for different reasons, the determination by Portsmouth general commissioners that £90,000 paid in May 1990 was an allowable in computing the amount of chargeable gains accru-ing to the taxpayers. Pounds Shipowners and Shipbreakers Ltd and Henry Frederick Pounds, Mr. Pounds had died since the hearing before the commissioners and the appeal was being conducted by the

executors of his estate. In 1988 the taxpayers, owners of the land, in consideration for £399.750 granted an option to purchase their shares of the land to Mowat Group plc, the sale price

being in excess of £4 million. The option was never exercised. it was a term of the option their best endeavours to procure

releases from certain restrictive Failure to obtain the releases would have required repayment o the £399.750 to Mowat.

The taxpavers incurred expenditure of £90,000 on obtaining the releases. The general commis-sioners held that sum was deductible under section 32 of the Capital Gains Tax Act 1979.

Mr Michael Furness for the Crown: Mr David Ewart for the

MR JUSTICE CARNWATH said that the issue was the correct treatment for capital gains tax purposes of the option price. Section 13711 of the 1979 Act provided that the grant of an option was the disposal of an asset. Part 11. Chapter 11 of the Act was

concerned with the computation of gains, section 32 setting out amounts allowable as a deduction from the consideration for a

The implication, although nowhere stated expressly in the Act. was that in a case of an arm's length disposal for monerary consideration, the consideration was the starting point for the

computation of the gain. Aberdeen Construction Group Ltd v IRC ((1978) 52 TC 281) and Randali v Plumb (1975) I WLR

633) showed that in identifying the consideration one should look at the particular transaction as a whole to see what the dispono received for the asset. The Crown's case was that the

consideration for the option was that stated in the agreemen \$399.750, and the taxpayers could not bring themselves within any provision allowing a deduction to e made for the £90,000. The truth was, Mr Furness

argued, that that sum was money spent in enhancing the value of the land and not of the option and as such would properly be taken into account as a deduction if and when the land was sold.

The commissioners held that the 190,000 should be treated as a deduction under section 32 of the Act but without specifying which limb. Mr Ewart relied on the second part of subsection (I)(a): expenditure wholly and exclusively incurred in providing the

On that argument the Crown was correct. It was not possible to fit the circumstances of the case into any of the section 32 caregories. The asset was provided long before the expenditure was

incurred. It was spent pursuant to the option but not in providing it.

Mr Ewart's alternative subfication of the consideration. He submitted that by analogy with Randail v Plumb the onerous obligation under the agreement was to be taken into account in computing the amount of the consideration. Best evidence of the value of the obligation, he said, was the £90,000 actually paid.

That was the correct approach. It was contrary to business reality to have regard only to the nominal consideration stated in the agreement, without regard to the other incidents of the transaction which materially affected the value of that consideration to the grantor.

The value to which the taxpayers were entitled under the option agreement was not £399,750. That nominal entitlement was qualified in two ways: it was dependent on the taxpayers being able to secure release of the covenants and assuming release, the net consideration in their hands would be the nominal amount less whatever was required to secure that release. taxpayers obtained for the grant of the option.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue: Warner Goodman &

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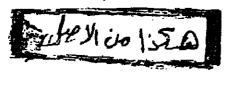
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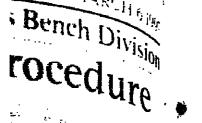
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RACING

Prime Minister pays tribute to Wyatt's legacy

JOHN MAJOR yesterday passionately about racing's special place in the life of the nation — and paid tribute to three of the sport's best known figures.

Whatever his troubles at Westminster and beyond, the Prime Minister won over the hearts of racing's supporters with a sparkling speech, full of humour and wit, at the annual Tote lunch in London - the last to be held under the chairmanship of Lord Wyatt of Weeford, who retires next month after 21 years in the job. Wyatt was a national insti-

tution and had been "an outstanding chairman of the Tote since before the Great Flood," Major joked. "He started the job before some of the Spice Girls had been born and not long since Chelsea most recently won the FA Cup." The Prime Minister said the

peer's imminent retirement marked the passing or an era and he linked it to that of Willie Carson, "one of our greatest jockeys," and Peter O'Sullevan, the "best loved commentator" who steps down later this year. They eave imperishable memories for those who love racing."

Addressing a lunch attended by an array of Cabinet ministers, past and present, and the equivalent of racing's Who's Who, the guest speaker said: "The racing industry has a very special place in the affection of this nation. We love horses and we love the sport of racing. The common passion enjoyed by those on racecourses and in betting shops is shared by millions

who watch the sport on television at home.

"Who can forget the memories of the last few months with Frankie Dettori's seven winners; Red Rum, some time ago at Aintree, or Devon Loch rather longer ago: memories that most people who love racing carry with them all the

Racing was also big business, especially in rural areas, employing 50,000 people directly and as many indirectly through bookmaking. It was a sizeable export earner. "But perhaps more important it is an integral part of our heritage, national life and interna-

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: RYMING CUPLET (4.10 Wincanton) Next best: Campeche Bay (2.40 Wincanton)

tional prestige. The Derby, Ascot, the Grand National are known and followed around the world and no-one asks which Derby or which Grand National. They know instinctively because the reputation of British racing travels to every corner of the globe

and rightly so." The Prime Minister recalled how the Government decided last year not to change the status of the Tote after an investigation. "We were persuaded change was undesirable and after that declaration Woodrow generously removed his fingers from my

throat and the Home Secretary's life returned to what approximates as normal."

Clearly enjoying himself, he then poked fun at Labour over the recent debacle involving privatisation plans for the Tote. However, it was lighthearted rather than political point scoring and he congratulated Robin Cook, the shadow Foreign Secretary and "hero of the hour", for quashing such

The Tote was a national asset which served the consumer and racing well. "It provides an invaluable service to racecourses, catering for the small-stake punter and those who like to see betting profits go to the benefit of racing. I think we would be wise to treasure that asset and (would like to see the Tote go from strength to strength.

In his speech. Wyatt claimed to have invented a "Superbet" which will soon be available in the growing number of betting shops, in-cluding Ladbrokes, which take Tote Direct. It would involve punters having to get the dual forecast right in four designated races. However, the idea is one of several be-

lieved to be under discussion. With the Home Secretary due to announce his successor later this month, Wyatt ridiculed the Nolan-style procedure which candidates have undergone. "The best way of finding a new chairman would be for the outgoing chairman, the chairman of the BHB, the senior steward and the chairman of the Levy Board to agree one."

Webber flying high in new role

By Julian Muscat

aul Webber is convinced his best chance of a winner at Cheltenham rests with Flying Instructor in the Arkle Trophy. Flying Instructor is unlikely to dispense lessons in the art to Mulligan, broadly hailed as a half-brother to the mythical Pegasus, but his engaging of the hot favourite neatly marries Webber's former life to the training career he recently adopted.

Days spent trawling the sales grounds as a bloodstock agent have given way to the early-morning groping of horses' legs — and the pros-pect of a delicious irony.

When Mulligan came up for sale Brian Stewart-Brown owner of Ask Tom and the Oliver Sherwood-trained Large Action asked me to look at him, Webber, 38, recalled. "So Sherwood and myself inspect him very carefully and tell Brian he isn't big enough to make a chaser. I have since spent the whole season watching Mulligan beat my horses and being reminded of the fact by Brian. I'm sincerely hopin he won't have reason to do it again after the Arkle."

It is perhaps fortunate for Webber's sanity that his Cheltenham squad is small. Defeat is never readily embraced by ambition and Webber-purchased talent now residing with other trainers is quite formidable.

It includes the likes of Collier Bay, Large Action, Juyush, Queen Of Spades, Yahmi, Kerawi, Berude Not To and Ocean Hawk. These horses represent mountainous obstacles for any opponent - never mind the largely unproven inmates at Cropredy Lawn, on the fringes of Banbury.

For the next few seasons Webber must confront these charges with less expensive purchases of his own. Yet he has an edge: few trainers are as comfortable in the maze



that is buying unproven

Having wealthy patrons is one thing: spending their money wisely is quite another, as Webber himself realised over 11 years with the Curragh Bloodstock Agency. Working as an agent helps you discover where to find decent horses. And to be terribly blunt about it," he said. "you learn an awful lot

at other people's expense." He has trawled the sales with all whose opinions are worth heeding. "Us green-horns would spot a confor-mation fault in a horse and say we couldn't possibly buy it." he said, "whereas people like Tom Cooper and George Blackwall might say to us: Well, I remember Nijinsky had a similar thing and it didn't seem to stop him, did

all about; building up a In the difficult climate of attracting racehorse owners, that experience will have to

CHELTENHAM

FESTIVAL

earn its chance. Although Webber's 44-box yard is all but full, including six or seven two-year-olds to be raced on the Flat, he has yet

to buy his first expensive store horse. Besides, the occasion would almost run contrary to the spirit of Cropredy. a 400-acre holding bought in 1955 by Webber's late father, John, to farm for himself.

Never more than a wel-

come diversion at that time. racehorses have increasingly featured in the deep jumping roots of the Webber family. Such a legacy explains why Land Afar, the stable star, is to bypass the Festival. "It is tempting but he is a ten-yearold with a long history of leg problems," Webber said. "It would be irresponsible to run him when conditions are not

favourable. It is the same

with Credo Is King: we'd love

to run him in the National

Hunt Chase but the ground

will almost certainly be too

Those conditions should

admirably suit Flying Instructor, owned and bred by a staunch family supporter in Lady Lyell, for whose family Webber's father rode show ponies more than 60 years igo. "My father always said that every day he spent with horses made him realise how little he really knew. I think all trainers would agree with that, but I must say Flying Instructor is in terrific form at the moment. He has a genuine each-way chance."

Webber cannot disguise his enthusiasm but a sense of realism — largely unknown among second-year trainers is quick to assert itself. "There are a fair few I've bought for which I'll have to take the blame when they get beaten next week," he reflects. "This time round, I'll have to take the flak for my

THUNDERER

2.10 Nordance Prince 2.40 Campeche Bay

3.10 Maestro Paul

3.40 Flying Fiddler 4.10 Ryming Cuplet 4.40 Country Tarquin 5.10 Quiet Arch

Carl Evans: 4.10 Wild Illusion

113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF.F.G.S) (Mrs 0 Robinson) B (MR 12-8 _____ B West (7)

publied up. U — unseated index. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — relaxed. D — discopalitied Horse's name. Days since lest compr. F it flat. B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — fleethield. C — course winter. D — distance winter. CD — course and distance Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES

2.10 SEAVENGTON MAIDEN HURDLE (DIV I: £1;913: 2m) (17 numers)

1	0	CLASSIC MODEL 37 (Rosa Recing) J Tuck 6-11-5	_	
ż	3/3355	MORDANCE PRINCE 35 (Piots Gym) Miss & Xelenay 6-17-5	90	
3	036-005	REVERSE THRUST 27 (Mrs. lk Tulneth P Hodger 5-11-5	58	
4-		STONE-PRICE SAM 42 (Stonehence Recipe) J Mullies 5-11-5 S Currin	_	
5	32	TALATHATH 29 (Mallon in Mind) D Nicholson 5-11-5		
Ğ	0404	THE STUFFED PUFFER 26 iJ Bell) C Mann 5-11-5	-	
7	6-0	200AC 14 (B Brackpool) P Makin 5-11-5	70	
À	•••	HOREYSHAN 204F (7 Cooper) O French Davis 5-11-0		
ă		ISIS DAWN (B Darell) A Newcombe 5-11-0 A Thornton	-	
10	1ID	ORCHED HOUSE 8 (Ab Kettleby Partners) N Mitchell 5-11-0	-	
11		DEADS MART 21 (A Vanelembroock) R Phillips 5-21-8 D FORE (3)	_	
12		ALSAHR 124F (Mrs. S. Livesen) W. Murr 4-10-11	_	
13	'n	GREEN BOPPER 30 (J Cook) C Mortock 4-18-11 C Mande	-	
14	ă	CELALITY 48 (C) O'Connort P Hobbs 4-10-11 G Tormey	94	
	3	REGAL SPLENDOUR 18F (Mass S Jones) R O'Subhas 4-10-11	_	
15		SAMUEL SCOTT 272F (R Green) M Pine 4-10-11	_	
15		SAMUEL SCOTT 2727 IN GIFTER WITHER THE TAIL AND ASSESSMENT OF THE TAIL AND	_	
17		STELLAR LINE OF (D Eisporth) D Eisporth 4-10-11 P Holley		
BETTRIC: 7-4 Tatatheih, 4-1 Quality, 5-1 Nordence Prince, 12-1 Statter Line, Samuel Scott, 14-1 Alsahib, 16-1				
DETIRAL 1-4 Idealization and character and the second and the seco				

1996: MUTAZZ 4-10-10 R Farrant (8-1) W Hem 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

NDRDANCE PRONCE about 28 3rd of 19 to Hoh Warrior in novice hundle at Newbory (2m 118yd. good) Nov 96, TALATHATH 28 8th of 14 good) Nov 96, TALATHATH 28 2nd of 13 to High in The Clouds in maiden burdle at Ludow (2m, good to larn) THE STLEFED PUFFM about \$4 (2m, good to 13 to Poard Rayes in National Hundle face at Catterick (2m, soil), Dec 96, 2004C 25 7th of 18 to Selection: TALATHATH

2.40 BROADSTONE NOVICES CHASE (£3,548: 2m 5f) (10 runners) ### BHUALDS LURE ROUVELES LITASE (£3,048; ZM 36) (10 FURINES)

\$F0/221 FRAZER ISLAND 14 (\$) [8 Ascender] R Rome \$-11-10 ... D 0'Sulven 89
28/401- CAMPECHE BAY 357 (1 Krusen) 8 Balding 8-11-4 ... A P McCloy (\$)
0-648F DRESS DANCE 6 (\$) (Als J Powel) N Muzzell 7-11-4 ... Soptie Machel (\$) 82
0FD DURCS CASTLE 18 (A Sim) R Ford 6-11-4 ... Soptie Machel (\$) 20FD DURCS CASTLE 19 (A Sim) R Ford 6-11-4 ... J Frost 3 -0FD FILL OF BOUNCE 19 (Fieldpring Range) R Hodges 6-11-4 ... T Descombe (\$) -0FD FUR CHE GRAND LOUP 359 (6 Bachtrough) D Hyde \$-11-4 ... B Fernon -0F-9FPLL BANCHECK AMBLET 6 (b) (Mass M Lare) 6 Balding 6-11-4 ... B Fernon -0FPPFLL BANCHECK AMPLET 6 (b) (Mass M Lare) 6 Balding 6-11-4 ... J Radion -6-22F05 REESH OCH 22 (B.5) (Mas M Taylor) A Tested 8-11-4 ... L Havey 63
56423-0 TRUST DEED 239 (B.F.G) (M Evicord) 5 Major 8-11-4 ... M Richards 55

BETTING: 7-4 Fizzes Island, 5-2 Campache Bay, 6-1 Resshoch, 8-1 Dress Dance, 16-1 Reincheck, 12-1 others 1998: GENERAL CRACK 7-11-4 A P McCov (7-1) P Nicholis 12 ran FORM FOCUS

FRAZER SCAND best Mandys Manino 21 m 7romer novice chase at Huntingdon (2m 4 i 10)vd,
oned to soil). CAMPECKE BAY 11/6 2nd of 6 to
Senor El Bentill in grade i Soilly lake novice chase
at Santown (2m 41 10)vd, good to firmt) on perside
mate start, Feth 95, DRESS DANCE FAN 4th of 9
to Codbert Hero in novice chase at Plumpton (2m,
good to soil) on perutitinate start. PLRSECK

Selection: FRAZER ISLAND

3.10 WINCANTON LOGISTICS HANDICAP CHASE (£5,215: 2m 5f) (5 runners)

Long hardicay: Hansillan Youth 9-13, Marsillo Paul 9-5, Bauk Church 9-4 BETTMG; 7-4 Senor B Retruth, 2-1 Hansillan Youth, 4-4 Marsillo Paul, 6-1 Fools Firand, 8-1 Black Church

1986: PASHTO 9-11-12 J Osborne (10-1) N Henderson 7 ran

SENDR EL BETRUTTI beal Southampton 104 in 3numer handicap chase at Wandick (2m st 110yd,
pood). FOOLS ERRAND 41 2nd of 8 to Distinctive
pood). FOOLS ERRAND 42 2nd of 8 to Distinctive
pood of Fools Errand 42 2nd of 8 to Distinctive
pood). BLACK CHURCH beat More Comedy 7 in
handicap chase at Footbeel (3m 21 110yd, good to
firm) on peruditimate start.

Selection: MAESTRO PAUL beat Scotoni 21 on 7-numer
pood beat footbeel (3m 21 110yd, good to
firm) on peruditimate start.

Selection: MAESTRO PAUL



Blow for Brooks

COULDN'T BE BETTER, the Charlie Brooks-trained gelding, will miss the Cheltenham
Gold Cup after a scan showed
he injured a tendon in the Greenalls Grand National Trial at Haydock last month.

3.40 TOMMY WALLIS HANDICAP HURDLE

BETTING: 11-10 Northern Starlight, 3-1 Flying Fiddler, 4-1 Mudazz, 5-1 Morstock, 1996: MOAT GARDEN 8-10-0 J Osborne (8-1) I Balding 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

MORSTOCK 1141 2nd of 5 to Hay Dance in hand-cap hardle bere (2m, good to fam) on penatonete start. MORTHERN STARLIGHT beat Goldingo 91 in 5-humer handicap hardle over coasse and dictance Good to firm)
MAUTAZZ about & 3rd of 5 to Peter Monamy in

herdicap hurdle at Taunion Cm 31 110yd, good to Imm). FLYING FIDOLER beat Can Can Charlie 147 in 10-nuner conditional handway hurdle at Assol (2m 41, good to firm) with MORSTOCK (13th better of) 111yl 6th Selection: NORTHERIN STARLIGHT (map)

4.10 DICK WOODHOUSE HUNTERS CHASE (Amaleurs: £1,394: 3m 1f 110yd) (6 runners)

1/1P-5P RYMMIG CUPLET 36P (C.D.F.G.S) (G Tanser) M Imotey 12-12-7 L Jefford (7) 83 3112-13 WALD ILLUSION 21 (D.BFF.G.S) Mrs. J Prágeon 13-12-7 R Lawther (7) 97 111-3 YOLMIG BRAVE 19P (F.G.S) (D roung) Mrs. A Young 11-12-7 M G Máter (7) 85 OPD-P2R MEDIANE 8 (V.G.S) (Drss 4 Wisson 14-12-0 S Andrews (3) 87 OPD-P2R MEDIANE 8 (V.G.S) (Drss 9-12-0 E James (7) – 1P1- PANDA SHANDY 319P (F.G.S) (Mrs. R Woodhouse) J Dutosee 9-11-9 R Nottall (7) — BETTING: 5-4 Wild Musson. 2-1 Young Brave. 5-1 Panda Shandy, 6-1 Hyming Cuplet. 25-1 Mediane. 33-1 Tom's German Star.

RYMING CUPLET taked off behind The Jogger in 1. Jogger in hunter citase at Kempton (3m. good) on 8-numer point-to-point at Badbury Rings (3m. good) on penuthimate start. TOM'S GEMINI STAR 33'41 6th of 16 to Britishy Boy in madem builde at Utilisation 3'd of 16 to Britishy Boy in madem builde at Utilisation (2m. good) of from on penuthimate start. Jone 96 PANDA SHANDY beat Silver Concord 31 in 6-170 4 110yd, good)
YUUNG BRAN'E best Pusty Bridge 71 at 8-mmner
butter chase at Utilocever (4m 21, good) on perulinmale start, May 96 MEDIANE 131 2nd of 6 to The
Selection: WILD ILLUSION

4.40 SPARKFORD HANDICAP HURDLE

JEU. 2111	OI (SO IDIACIS)	
	GALATASORI JANE 28 (CDF) IB Biomeni P Nicholt; 7-11-13 L Cummins (7)	
022P/01	DUELOUE CHOSE 31 (D.F.S) (N. Stalford) B Meetron 7-11-1." D Gallagher	
2-32422	ENTERAAL 7 (F) (Mrs M UTZIN) J King 6-11-10 T J Murphy	
/U-521	PADDYSWAY 17 (CD.F.S.) (R Searle) R Buckler 10-11-9 B Powell	
06034-4	CROHAME QUAY 152 (Max. G Baiding) 6 Balding 8-11-5 Mr A Baiding (7)	90
	SPRING HEBE 99 (5) (B Ayall) B Ryall 7-11-5 Sophie Mitchell (5)	89
	AN SPAILPIN FANACH 280 (A SIMES) D GANDONO 8-11-5 . D FORE (3)	91
	HUGE MISTAKE 27 (B,G) (Windresh Racing) N Twiston-Davies B-11-4 D Bridgmater	
216/0-P6	MOUNTAIN REACH 27 (F) (6 Wilson) P Webber 7-11-4 A Thorragon	-
0231-04	EUGAYAN CAY 14 (C.5) (Joe Cool Fartners) Mr. A Bowloy 6-11-3 D Leahy	91
	KILCORAN BAY 24 (V.G.S) (B Edgeley) J Mulins 5-11-1 R Greene	92
43P1/P0	NUMS COME 13 (F.S) (Mrs A O Sullivan) & Peacock 9-10-13 J. R. Karramagh	
	DARNING KING 17 (D.F.S.) (Cleave Surbles) M Bolton 7-10-12 L Aspell (3)	98
	HANGING GROVE 17 (J Forbes) P Mouthly 7-10-10 N March	88
4/064-F0	IMALIGHT 14 (R Figst) R Frost 8-10-9 J Frost	90
	APACHEE FLOWER 21 (G) (J. Tachley) H. House 7-10-3 R. Johnson	
02-4050	COUNTRY TAROUN 33 (Mrs. C. James: R. Hodges 5 10-0 T. Dascombo (3)	
	DIEMNICKS COUNTRY 28 (Finction of Tubber 7:10-0) M. Griffiths (7)	
6/0/0P5	CONCINIATY 8 (6 Scriven) 8 Scriven 8-10-0 Mr O McPhall (7)	87
		70
-190-		

BETTING. 4-1 Galacteco: Jane 5-1 Paddycway 6-1 Entekan 8-1 Qualque Chose Codeme Quan, 10-1 An Spailbin Farach, 12-1 others

1998: LUGS BRANNIGAN 7-11-2 Kathemie Hambidge (12-1) M Bradstock 21 ran FORM FOCUS

GALATASORI JANE beal Tremptor 194 in 14number nonce hardle over course and detance
(good to firm) with DUNBLOS COUNTRY 2006
better off) miled off CUBL CUB CHOSS beat to be
Ware 111 in seding handlesp hardle at Forneel (2m of
1110/m good birm). FITEFAAL 19-12-m of 12to Grunge in handlesp hardle at Tomocter (3m)
only no penultrates start, with MOUNTAIN REACH
(5fb better oil) 401 6th and HISGE MISTARE (10ib

5.10 SEAVINGTON MAIDEN HURDLE

BETTING: 3-1 Embankment, 4-1 Cool Vistue, 6-1 Althrey Palox, Warnie Places, 10-1 Ring Ol Visson, 14-1 others.

1996. MUTAZZ 4-10-10 R Farant (8 1) W Hem 16 ran

ALTHREY PLOT 1691 4th of 12 to Darakshan in morce huide at Bangor (2m 11, good) EMBANS-MENT 991 4th of 18 to The Flying Phantom in manded huidle user course and distance (good) and PROTOTYPE 7891 17th KEDWICK 24 8th of 20 to Jacob's Wife to nonce huide at Worcesta (2m, good) April 95 COOL VIRTUE hast Wymard

COURSE SPECIALISTS JOCKEYS

TRAMERS 4 10 400 G Bradles 40 143 280 D Symme 7 32 219 A P McCra 10 50 300 R Sarant 8 42 190 C Maude 39 205 15 200 74 176 5) 137 66 136 BLAKERED FIRST TIME: Caristic 3-30 Master Of Trey 100 Char Move Towcester: 2-20 Wickens One Windamorr 4-40 Huge Metable

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

it? That is what experience is

Bangor

Going: good to soft, soft in place: 2.10 (2m 11 hdie) 1, Danskishen (J Cutioty, 8-11 fav): 2, Zander (7-1), 3, Morpheus (15-8) 14 ran 'el, hd. Mass H Knight, Tote 51.60, £1 10, £1 10, £1.50, DF: £4.50, Tno: £1 50 CSF. £8.70

C130 CS-1-08-01 2-40 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Highway Five (Mss E James, 20-1), 2, Teatrader (7-1); 3, Cape Cottage (5-4 lay), 6 ran Sh hd, 11 Lady Susan Brooke, Tote 130 30; 27.40, £3 40. DF £42.80 CSF. £118.59 3.10 (2m 11 ch) 1, Indian Jockey (A P McCoy. 4-9 (av), 2, The Secret Grey (20-1), 3, Santa-ray (5-1) 8 ran 9, hd M Pipe Tote £ 13 £1 10, £1 80, £1 30 DF-£7 70, CSF-£10 38

3.40 (2m If hole) 1, Knight in Side (C Maude, 10-1); 2. Edward Seymour (16-1); 3, A S Jum (20-1) Ramsdams 11-4 fav 17 ran MR. Admars's Guest, Espita. 111, 131 M Pipe Tote: C14 30; E3 10, E11 80, C5 80 DF: C127 70 Tno C325.50 (part won Pool of C412 85 certifed forward to 4.40 at Wincanton today) CSF, £138.33. write antificially CSF, £139.39.
4.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Carlboo Gold (J.)
Osborne, 4-5 (av); 2, Callava Star (P-2); 3,
Rubans Stoy (33-1) 14 ran NR Gasterbon,
31, 251 K Beiley, Tote, C1 70; C1,70, C1 50,
£10, 10 DF; £1,00, Tho, £83 70, CSF; £4,37
Tricast, £59 63

18285 Ces 60: 4,40 (2m4) hdle 1, Lough Tully (J Csborne, 6-4 tar. Private Handicapper's lop rating). Snowshift Sheler (12-1), 3, Luke Warn (15-2) 13 ran 101, 3-1, F. Lodan, Tote C2 50, £1.40, £2.20, £1.60 DF £43 10, 7rc. £61.70, CSF £19.33 Treast £107 78 Jackpot: £17,186.90. Placepot: £394.60. Quadpot: £36.60.

Catterick Bridge

Gong: good to soft 1.55 (2m hde) 1, Radmore Brandy (G Lee, 7-1) 2, Nor Espiri (15-8 lav), 3, Fiasco (14-1) 12 ran 71, 181 G Richards Tote: 93-90, 12-50, (21 10, 27 50 DF: 93-60 Trio: 289-20 CSF £20.13

2.25 (2m hdle) 1, Cumbnen Meestro (R Garrity, 4-9 lav), 2, Oversman (7-1); 3, Undawaterscubadiva (10-1) 13 ran 91, 31 T Esserby, Tole £160 £1.30 £180 £210 DF £4 60 Tror £13 60 CSF £4 45 Dr. (2 80 100° (13 80 CSF) (2 49 3 3.00 (3m ft 110vd ch) 1, Sayin Nord (Mr A Parker, 5-2 law); 2, Greenmount Lad (20-1), 3 Admission (8-1), 10 ran 3VI, 2 K Anderson Tote, C320, C1 10, C5 00, C22.00. DF (140 20 Tro £158 80, CSF £49 57 3.30 (3m 1/ 110yd ch) 1. Kerenastino (R Williamson, 8-1); 2. Kings Sermon (3-1) 3. Tico Gold (9-2) Bold Account 13-8 lav 8 ran NFr King Of Steel NJ, 6/ Mrs S Smith. Tole 27-50-200 21-88, 07-40 DF: £1130 Imp £13-20 CSF £31.17 Impast £112.94. 100 Cm 3t hotel 1, Major Yasas (A Dobbin, 14-1), 2. Fryup Satellite (7-1), 3, Mrs. Jawley-ford (7-1), 4. Fryup Satellite (7-1), 3, Mrs. Jawley-ford (7-1), 4. Frst in The Field (9-1) Court Joker 6-1 tev (pu) 18 ran 5t, 81. J Glover Tote 925 30; 89 30, 91 30, 91 70, 91 60 DF-99 00 Tno 1223 50 (pert won Pool of 190 37 carried forward to 4-40 at Wincambon today) CSF 198 16 Tricast 1998 87 4.30 (2m 3f ch) 1. Roberty Las (P Niven, 4-5 lav) 2 Tapatch (4-1) 3 Monkey Wench (6-1) 8 ran VI. 13 Min M Reveley Tota: £1.6°. £1 10 £1 60, £1 60 DF £4.20, CSF, £4.17 5 00 Cm list) 1. Easby Blue (P Niveri, Evens Lavi, 2. Going Primitive (15-2), 3. Eastoffle 19-2) 9 ran 71, 101 S Kentlewell Tote C1 60, C1 10, C1 90 02 50 DF 68 20 The C43 10 CSF 69 66

Placepot: £26.40. Quadpot: £11.80. Wolverhampton Going: standard

Goling standard
1.50 (6) 1, Another Nightmare (Mrs C Williams, 30-1); 2, Astral Invader (14-1); 3, Ring The Chiel (9-2), Leigh Crofter 9-4 few. 10 ran 15; 1nd R McKeller. Tole, 213-90, 22 60 (2) 10, C4.50 DF 1135-90, Trio, 2160 30 (pair won Pool of 1180 70 camed loward to 4 40 at Wincanton today). CSF 226 63 Tincast, 21,396 15
2.20 (6)) 1 Tabilid (Miss R Clark, 14-1), 2, Dencing Sout, (10-1), 3, Lochon (16-1) Mustang 6-4 few 10 fron 11, hd D Chapman Tote 118 50 E4 70, 22 60, 24 20 DF 574 20 Tito not ston (pool of 2236-90 camed loward to 4 40 at Wincanton today). CSF 5142-10 Tincast 22,087-22
2.50 (fm 100yd) 1, Sword Arm (7 Sprake, Evens law) 2, Little Acom (12-1), 3, Only Josh (14-1) 9 ran, 11, 31 R Charton, Tote 160, C1 10, 52-20, S1 60 DF 521,00, Tino, 220 80 CSF 51489
3,20 (fm 100yd) 1, Globetrotter (D

220 80 CSF £14.89 3.20 f/m 100ydl 1. Globetrotter (D McKeown, 3-1), 2. Foot Battation (9-1); 3, Milroy (15-2) Don Sebastian 5-4 tav. 8 ran. 291 M. M. Johnston Tote, £5.10; £1.80, £1.70, £1.90 DF £10.00 CSF £31.32. Tucest £181.63

Incest 1181 63 3.50 (1m 4) 1. Albaha (R Mullen, 2-1 tev), 2, Major Change (9-2), 3, Chine Castle (10-1), 8 ran NR Leading Sprit, 141, 71 J Bants Tole 12300, 51 30, 12-30, 51 90 DF-52 70. Tulo 143 10 CSF 121 50 Tricast 175.32 4.20 (Im II 79yd) 1, Soldier Cove (D Sweeney, 13-2), 2, Northern Fan (11-4); 3, David James Gri (3-1), Sarssi 2-1 fav 9 ren NF Fabs 2-1, 41 M Maade Tote 19 40, 12 10 (1 10) 11 20 DF 17 50 Titor 25 90 C 5F 124 30

4 50 (5ii) 1 Gi La High (D Sweeney, 5-1); 2, 4 jaz (5-1) 3 Needle Mach (11-2) Madina 9-2 tov 13 ran >1 2 M Meade Tote 05 70, 12 30 C 20 0 52 30 DF 520 90 Trio 5182 10 CSF 531 04 Tricast 5140,29 D

THUNDERER

2.20 Hancock, 2.50 Broosen Lady, 3.20 Teaplanter

3.50 KONVEKTA QUEEN (nap), 4.20 Simpson, 4.50 The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.50 KONVEKTA QUEEN.

Carl Evans: 3.20 Teaplanter. GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (CHASE COURSE); SOFT, HEAVY IN

TOWCESTER

PLACES (HURDLES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING 2.20 BANQUE ARJIL ESPANA NOVICES HANDICAP

HURDLE (Conditional jockeys: £2,460: 3m) (15 runners) 101 4530 ROSS DANCER 38 J Moore 5-11-70. J Magee 85
102 4540 EVEZO RUFO 49 (N.EF) N Litronden 5-11-7. D J Kavarragh 93
103 SF56 ROSEHALI 13 (P) Mis 7 Pillargoin 6-11-7. J Suthern (3) 89
104 -001 FANCY NANCY 17 (S) Miss C Johasey 6-11-4 Michael Breenien 93
105 POTU KILLING TRAIE 8 (BF.F.S) D Bercel 6-11-1. J Prior (5) 99
106 -072 HANCOCK 16 J Heimeton 5-11-1. J Prior (5) 99
107 -302 CARDBAR, SAYLE 17 (BF) R Almor 7-11-0. D Walefs 89
108 ASIS KARBER'S TYPHOON 22 7 McCovern 6-10-71 M Batchisto (5) 88
109 6024 WINTER ROSE 17 Miss P Weittle 6-10-11. K Hibbert (5) 97
110 4334 ONE MORE DANC 17 J Heacham 7-10-9. A Banus 93
111 0-60 MYSTIC COURT 19 A Tumel 6-10-7. C Rae 97
112 6235 ARDORT LOWE 27 O Nicrolson 8-10-7. R Massey 90
113 PLOS WINCHES ONE 17 (B) Edergishy 7-10-4. G Supplis 93
114 4003 OTTER PRINCE 17 (B) I Searge 8-10-0. C Hynes (7) —
115 (326 LOWELARK 35 R Lee 8-10-0. C Timpl Grad 8-1 Enter Public Research

5-1 Fancy Nancy, 6-1 Ardent Love, Cardinal Gayta, 8-1 Evezio Rulo, Winter Rose, 18-1 Hancock, One Many Dime, 12-1 others. 2.50 JOHN WEBBER MEMORIAL NOVICES CHASE

(13,3/9; ZT) 6); (12)
201 000/ ARDSCLID 1658 M Bradstack 10-11-3 ... W Marston —
202 PP00 BALLYDOUGAN 19 (v) R Marston 9-11-3 ... D Walsh
203 1-33 HM 0F PRASE 19 (s) 0 Stemsood 7-11-3 ... J Callody —
204 PP05 MAJOR NOVA 8 (s,5) N Smith 8-11-3 ... J Callody —
205 5-PP MYSTIC MANNA 19 A Turnel 11-11-3 ... G Cronz 74
206 P25- SP04A BLIE 202 R Purp 12-11-3 ... M Sharma's —
207 P-PR SWET POICEY 9 D Williams 7-11-3 ... M Clorice —
208 PS34 THE BOLET POICES 10 V Scare 7-11-3 ... D Bytes 98
209 -440 THE SMAR POICE 10 V Scare 7-11-3 ... D Bytes 98
209 -440 THE SMAR PART 24 (S) J Did 9-11-3 ... D Bytes 98
210 0000 BECKY'S GIPL 26 R Brabarton 7-10-12 ... Gay Lawfs (3) —
211 28F BROSCEN LATY 8 D Sardston 7-10-12 ... J F Titley 98
212 -332 COUNTRY STORE 80 (S) A Jones 6-10-12 ... S McNedi 39
214 Albro (Mercel L.) Create Scare 2-2 Remove Lath 8-1 Thrond Warmer

6-4 Him Of Praise, 4-1 Country Store. 9-2 Brogsen Lady, 8-1 Thermal Warrov, 10-1 Mystic Mannu. 12-1 The Booley House, 20-1 others 3.20 BANQUE ARJIL ITALIA HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,501: 3m 1f) (7)

301 4-24 TEAPLANTER 13 (CD. 6.5) Misc C Sounders 14-12-6 B Politick (5) (8) 302 41-9 WHAT A 10 DD 18P (f. 5) C Sounders 13-12-5 Miss L Sweeting (7) 75 303 17P DBECT 322 (5) I Exoppe 14-12-2 — 1 Edwards (7) 75 304 P-P1 FOULERS PRIC 12P (CD.5) Miss R Henderson 16-11-12 Miss C Henderson (7) 6 400 Miss R LITTER 7 R Smoth 9-11-12 — 5 Joynes (7) 6 305 4PP MAJOR MAC 8 D Williams 10-11-12 — Mrs C McCarby (7) — 307 /003 SDLAR GEM 12P (6) J Mason 10-11-12 — Mrs C McCarby (7) — 4-7 Teaplanter, 7-1 Direct. 8-1 Lumga Gitter, 10-1 What A To Do, 12-1 others

3.50 HOECHST ROUSSEL PANACUR EBF MARES (Qualifier: £3.157; 2m 5f) (10)

2-1 Lady High Sheriff, 5-2 Kongelia Queen, 4-1 Maylin Magic, 6-1 Kosheen, 8-1 King's Rainbow, 16-1 Fun White It Lasts 20-1 others

4.20 BANQUE ARJIL & COMPAGNIE HANDICAP

CHASE (£3,527: 3m 1f) (9) GRASE (1.3,327: 311 11) (9)

50: 54-0 SCRØBLER 19 (B.G.S) G McCourt 11-12-0. R Hobson (7) —
50: 539- TARAMOSS 383 (C.S) T George 10-11-11..... N Williamson 89
503 - P51 CELTIC BARLE 14 (G.S) H Hodge 13-10-13............ S McNeil (9)
504 4073 SOLD GENT 14 (F.G.S) A Jones 8-10-4......................... D Byrns 9
505 8550 HOLY STIMS 18 (R.S) N Invision-Denies 8-10-3 C Llewellyn 95
506 5-13 SMAPSON 9 (BF.F.G.S) J Dol 12-10-2......................... G Lipton 91
507 +794 CARL MERGON D LACES 43 (S) T Thomas Dates 9-10-0 J Colory 95
508 5540 SHAMARPHIL 19 (F.S) R Alon 11-10-0. Miss 5 Barrachoph 80
509 421/ PROMITIVE SMGER 727 (F.S) J Pickening 9-10-0 . W Marston — 5-2 Sampson, 3-1 Cettic Barte, 7-2 Solio Geni, 7-1 Taramoss, 8-1 others.

4.50 BANQUE ARJIL POLSKA HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,609: 2m) (4)

601 -223 SMAPLY 132 (D.F.G.S) T McGovern 8-11-10 ... J Deborne 58 602 -1P4 WASSI STREET 16 (S) K Morgan 5-11-10 ... N Wilkemson 84 603 5-05 HARLEDURN HORRIUS 27 J DOK 7-11-1 ... G Upton 87 804 G-0F KARLENE KA 24 (D.S) FI Dicks 6-11-0 ... X Alzpuri (7) — 6-4 Wassi Street, 2-1 Sumply, 7-2 Harlegoth Chonus, 7-1 Xarline Xa

COURSE SPECIALISTS

CARLISLE: Trainers: Mr. M Feweley, 30 winners from 101 numers, 23 7%. J Jefferson, 14 from 48, 29.2%; Mrs A Swintenk, 9 from 36, 25 0%. J Fittgereld, 7 from 29, 24.1%; G Richards, 35 from 162, 21.5%; A Whittens, 3 from 18, 16.7%. Jockeyer, P Niven, 32 winners from 115 ndss, 27 8%. P Carberry, 6 from 24, 25 0%. A Dobbin, 24 from 122, 19.7%, J Burles, 7 from 41, 17.1%, J Callaghan, 8 from 50, 16.0%.

TOWCESTER: Trainers: Mass C Sauedeus. 12 waters from 19 remners. 63.2%, O Nichelson, 25 from 63, 39.7%. 1 Thorozon Jones, 6 from 29. 21.4%. Mrs D Haine, 5 from 30. 16.7%. J Old, 7 from 43, 16.3%. D Gardelle 7 from 44, 15.9%. J Jockeys: J Cullety, 3 wemens from 1 mides, 27.3%, D Brane, 5 from 13, 23.7%, J Talley, 4 from 20, 20.0%, N Walhamsson, 9 from 55, 16.4%; W Marston, 10 from 73, 13.7%.

CARLISLE

THUNDERER

2.00 Pebble Beach. 2.30 Pariah. 3.00 Prime Example. 3.30 Solomon's Dancer, 4.00 Enchanted Cottage. 4.30 Ceilidh Boy. 5.00 Linwood.

8AM PRECAUTIONARY INSPECTION

2.00 BORDER ESK NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,416: 3m 110yd) (13 runners)

3-1 Petible Beach 6-1 Mrs. Robinson, 7-1 Sandrill, Patade Racer, 8-1 Pharmambling, Jónsson, 10-1 others

2.30 DERWENT HANDICAP CHASE (£2,696: 2m) (7)

5-2 Chill Wind, 11-4 Paush 4-1 Rebel King, 9-2 Grouse-N-Heather, 6-1 Blazing Trail, 20-1 Super Sandy, 66-1 Quarall Crosses 3.00 GOLDEN PHEASANT, YOUNGERS NOVICES

HURDLE (£2,528: 2m 4f 110yd) (16) | 1 341 MTO THE WEST 7 (0.5) Mrs 5 Smith B-11-8 ... R Guest 2 0TUP SDLD STARTMENT 10 (6) 6 Moore 5-11-2 ... N Berdey 3 OP BURDER MAKE 23 F Murtaph 6-11-2 ... E Cabaghan (6) 4 403 JAYFCE 30 M Bebly 5-17 ... T Read 5 003 LENNES PROSPECT 9 J J O'Nest 6-11-2 ... R McGrath (5) const. Japanesia 14 2 Eromental 6-11-2 ... R McGrath (5) PRIVED TO 15 5 003 JENNE'S PROSPECT 9 J J O'Neill 6-11-2 R McGrath (5)
6 0050 LARISHEL 42 J Fitzperid 6-11-2 R Supple
7 5 MKC STAN 10 Lump 6-11-2 R Supple
8 000 MCMTEN 31 S Leathetts 6-11-2 M Leach
9 0006 MASAYER 9 M Mason 7-11-2 S Haworth (7)
10 3-00 NOSMO KING 9 Mrs M Aendall 6-11-2 Mrs M Kendall
11 2 PRIME EXAMPLE 23 M Tochundrs 6-11-2 P Carberry
12 4420 SR 1008 12 W McKenm 6-11-2 G Carbert
13 67/5 THE INFORMOA 38 (6) Mrs A Sentitorik 7-11-2 J Supple
14 3362 AHDERINA 14 F Murphy 6-10-11 A Dobton
15 PEAK A BOOD W Mintans 6-10-11 D Bentley
16 /D-P THEOMEDOWNSOMETHING 25 Mrs D Thomson 7-10-11 B Storey

3-1 Anthons, 5-1 Prome Example, 6-1 Sur Bob, 7-1 into The West, 10-1 Bold Statement, 12-1 Jayscoe, 14-1 Jennie's Prospect, 16-1 others 3.30 EDINBURGH WOOLLEN MILL NOVICES CHASE (£4,443: 2m 4f 110yd) (4)

1 1122 SOLOMOSES DANCER 70 (CD.F.G) 6 Rectands 7-11-13 2 2122 KENNAORE-SPEED 12 (F.G.S.) Mirs S Smith 10-11-3 R Busst
3 5-54 MASTER OF TROY 12 (B.F.G.S) C Parter 9-11-3 Parker
4 UAFU MLANAY 2 (S) M Rames 7-11-3 S Taylor (S)
2-5 Solomon's Dentes, 3-1 Normone-Speed, 8-1 Master Of Troy, 20-1 Nijeay

4.00 WAVER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,318. 2m 11) (13)

HURDLE (£2,318. 2m. 11) (13)

7 -000 FOX SPARROW 8 (SI N Tinder 7-11-10 ... E Husband (3)

1 -120 MERSY MERBALD 8 (BF.S) 8 Mactaggar 7-11-6 ... S Metroso

3 -242 SUPREME SOVIET 10 A Waitans 7-11-4 ... S Taylor

4 8304 GLENICE 12 (O.F.S) 6 Moore 6-11-2 ... M Harnshy (3)

5 -344 OUR ROBERT 8 (S) 1 Program 5-11-2 ... I Harnshy (3)

6 5333 FALLELSEFAUS 6 (F) L Lurgo 9-11-0 ... Lardine (8)

7 2975 HASHLAND WAY 76 (SI M Fothants 9-11-0 C McCommotal 8)

8 1502 ETERNAL CITY 22 (D.6) 6 Richards 6-10-12 ... R Burns (8)

9 -470 NAPPA CHARLE 19 C Partes 6-10-6 G Len

10 61-P KIRSTENBOSCH 25 (CDL.S) L Lurgo 10-10-4 ... W Dowling (8)

11 5-12 BICHANTED COTTAGE 7 (BF.S) J Lefterson 5-10-2 ... E Callagiant (3)

12 4-10 APOLLO'S DAUGHTER 26 (F) J Soulding 9-10-0 ... B Scratten

13 0000 SEY YOU ALWAYS 38 (F) D Mootal 7-18-0 ... B Fratten

9-9 Serattene Super 5-1 Der Robert, Enclanded Cottagn 7-1 Mears Mermaid 8-1

9-2 Septeme Soviet, 5-1 Dur Robert, Enchanted Cottago, 7-1 Merry Mermaid, 8-1 Georgie, 10-1 Italielsetalis, Highland Way, 12-1 oliters. 4.30 EDEN HANDICAP CHASE (£3,623: 3m 2f) (4) Mr. R. Hale 3 /O-F ACAZOU III 28 (5) 6 Butlands 9-11-5 P Carberry 4 0-12 NORTHERN SCUIRE 10 (C.S.S.) Judiciscon 9-11-1

5-4 Acayou fit, 3-1 Celikith Boy. 7-2 Morthern Squire, 4-1 Utou Val. 5.00 LIDDEL WATER INTERMEDIATE OPEN

NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,172-2m 1f) (12)

TOMAS HUNT FLAT HAGE (\$1,7/2*2m*11) (12)

1 TOMAS RIVER 30 (CD.S) M/S M Reveley 5-11-11. G Let (3)

0 CHAM MOVE 9 (B) W Smith 5-11-4. S Laylor (5)

0 JUNEO'S DREAM 30 J Doon 6-11-4. F Perroti
40 JUST NED 23 J Hatcher 6-11-4. M Foster

SMILE FLEEZE M/S M Son's 5-11-4. M Foster

00 SMOOTY ESCHOO 47 J Hatcher 5-11-4. E Catagrien (3)

0 SUPPERSALT 30 J Fitzpestd 5-11-4. W Dwan

0 WOODHOUSE LANE 41 N Chamberian 5-11-4 Miss C Mastella (7)

0 SYNCRAN-CYPSY 44 G Hatnes 5-10-13. A Dobtol

60 COOL KEVIN 9 M/S M Kentall 4-10-10. M/S M Kentall

60 COOL KEVIN 9 M/S M Kentall 4-10-10. M/S M Kentall

61 SDE BY SDE 12 C Thordon 4-10-6. N Harrocks (7)

63 Bart 9, 1 Jampson 6-15-15 State M/S Crief 7-1 Superson 10-10.

IF Tottenham Hotspur's final visit to Roker Park on Tuesday night had ended in defeat, it could have marked the start of the north London club's decline into the relegation zone. Instead, their victory left Sunderland's home record as the tightest defence in the FA Carling Premiership in tatters and suggested that Tottenham are not so far away from

recapturing old glories. With Steffen Iversen, their young and, at £2.75 million, comparatively cheap Norwegian striker scoring a memo-rable hat-trick. Tottenham looked a class above Sunderland and appeared capable of scoring at will.

We've talked a lot about the season and injuries, but this was the first time that John Scales, Steffen lversen. Darren Anderton and Teddy Sheringham have played together in the three months we have had Scales." Gerry Francis. the Tottenham manager,



Francis: high praise

said. On this form, with the remaining injury victims -Armstrong, Vega, Mabbutt, Fox and Sinton — to return to add depth to the squad, Tottenham look a formidable force for next season.

Even without them, they destroyed Sunderland with some exhilarating football in the best Tottenham tradition and looked as good as any leading Premiership team.

"What I've been saying, which is difficult when you are going against the wind, is that our performances in recent matches have not been reflected in results," Francis said. "I thought we should have beaten Forest 4-1 or 5-1 on Saturday, but we didn't. Steffen will probably tell you he had better chances then, but they didn't

go in.
"He is a very talented boy. Everything had gone superbly

well for him through his career, but he's come here, he has played ever so well, created chances, got chances, but for one reason or another they hadn't gone in and, probably for the first time in his career, he was feeling a bit low on confidence

"So I sat him down on Monday and showed him the videos I had made of him when I was watching him showed him the way the goals flew in and things he did. He gave a little smile. I don't know whether it made any difference, but today they have

Iversen took his goals with the certainty of a born scorer, the shot for his third goal struck with power and a high technique from 30 yards that revealed a young player of

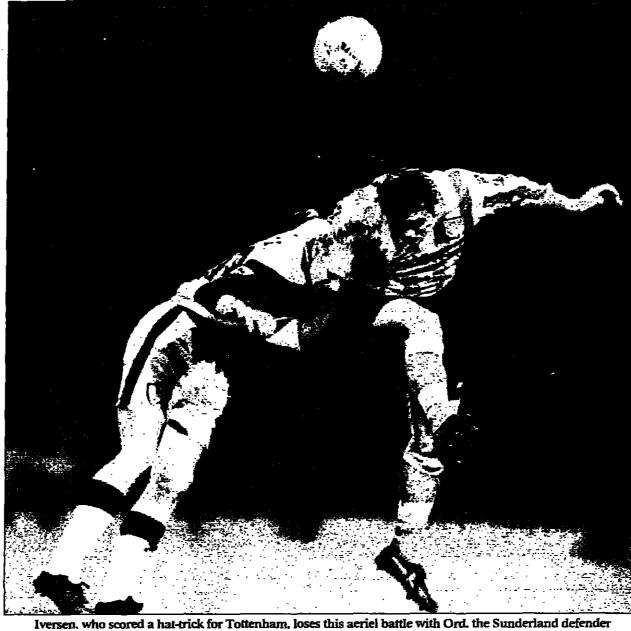
huge promise.
"If Chris Armstrong had been fit, we might have been able to introduce him a bit more quietly, but he's had to come in and play, mainly with Rory Allen or Neale Fenn," Francis said. "But he's an exceptional talent and playing with Teddy, or Chris, he's going to learn a great deal." Whether he will learn much

playing against Premiership defences like Sunderland's is another matter. Iversen could have been pitting his skills against Ferrara and Peruzzi, of Juventus, last night in the European Cup, but money talked and he left Rosenborg. of Norway, for Tottenham. On this performance, he might be back on the European stage earlier than seemed likely a

His job on Tuesday night was helped by Sunderland's defensive disarray, a new and worrying development for Peter Reid, the Sunderland manager. He started the game with two forwards and a threeman defence, an attacking formation that was prompted by Sunderland's lack of goals that, up until this match, had been Reid's main cause for

Reid's side had scored once in their previous six games and, indeed, a Sunderland player has yet to score at Roker this year. Their only goal at home in 1997 came from Tony Adams, of Arsenal. This poor form in front of goal is the main reason why

Sunderland are facing the prospect of relegation after just one season back in the top



Old Firm inspire global warming

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IT WAS probably the late Jock Wallace, a legendary Rangers manager, who once insisted that if the Old Firm were to meet at the North Pole at midnight, it would still be a sell-out. The suspicion lurks that if television was willing to pay for it, such a match could

Even though the Tennents Scottish Cup quarter-final tonight will take place at the more likely venue of Celtic Park, the Glasgow derby does indeed have a global

Tony Innes, for instance, hopes to go to work with a smile tomorrow morning, replete from a 90-minute breakfast in front of the television and, he expects, a Celtic

Adelaide-based Innes is the chairman of the South Australia Celtic Supporters' Associ- , finger during their Uela Čup ation. He last saw them in real-life action in the 1989 Scottish Cup final.

"Hopefully that will be an omen," he said. "We won 1-0 with a goal from Joe Miller. I'll be watching on Friday, even though for us the kick-off

is something like 5.30am. Normally about 45 of us get together at a pub to watch matches on Fox, the pay-TV channel. We get a full Scottish game once a week from the previous weekend but there haven't been too many with Celtic in recent weeks.

"We watched the Old Firm game at new year in a bar which opened for us specially at 5am and served breakfast. This week I'll have a few of the guys round the house and then go off to work.

We run three teams and play the Rangers supporters

SHAKA HISLOP, the New-

castle United goalkeeper.

could miss his side's FA

Carling Premiership match

with Liverpool at Anfield on

Monday after dislocating a

defeat by AS Monaco on

his European debut, was hurt

when he dived to save a shot

from Sonny Anderson in the

fifteenth minute, but after

attention from Derek Wright,

PONTIN'S CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second

division: Manchester City 3 Mansfield Town 1; Rotherham United 3 Hull City 0; Wresham 3 Grimsby Town 1 NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First

nth 2 SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: First division:

SMifNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: First division: Omegin Town 0 Lame 1
ICIS LEAGUE: Premiter division: Bishop is Stortford 0 Harrow Borough 1, Brontley 2 Emigstonea: 2; Heybridge 4 Cherisey Town 1: Hickin 4 Oxford Cey 2, Yeoni 6 Duhech 1: First division: Abargiaon Town 0 Molesey 1, Hampton 0 Tooling and Mitcham United division: Logition Town 2 Wivenhoe Town 1: Security Cheriston 1: Memopolitan Police 0 Collet Row and 1: Memopolitan Police 0 Collet Row and 70 Mitcham Town 0 Barking 5
RAMKES SREWIFF 1 FAGGIE: Premier

Boston 1.
IRISH LEAGUE COCA-COLA FLOODLIT
CUP: Sami-finals: Glenavon 2 Crusaders 0:

IRISH LEAGUE COCA-COLA FLOODLIT CUP: Semi-finals: Gleravon 2 Crusaders 0; Gleratona 2 Portadown 1 (ast) MEDIAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bliston COMBINATION: Premier division: Bliston Community Coll 1 Hancrahan Timbers 2 INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Biodynorth Town 4 Smithal Town 1, Chasafown 1 Boldmere St Machaels 2 (abandoned after 73min), Oldbury Umled 2 Blakenell 3, Pershore Town 0 Barwell 0, Stranford Town 2 Roosster 2, Willenhall Town 2 Hincidey Athlete 2

Ameno 2 Northern Counties East League:

Pornier division: Pickering Town 1 North Fembry United 2: Thackley 2 Shoffield 0 (abandoned after 30mm) JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di-vision: Bornetto Houth Hustoquing 5 Brockerius 3 4

Brockentar 2 4
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTYS LEAGUE: Premier division County
Felostowe Pland I 2 Topies Und County

and Parkesion 0 COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEA-

COUNTIES COMBINED COURTIES LEA-GUE: Premier division: Veung Spuris 0 Notherne 1 SCHOOLS MATCHES: Centenary shield under-18 international: Holland 1 Encland 1 lat 2wolle) English Girls Under-16 Virnto Transpy Quarter-Final: Winston Churchill 3 Bower Park 1

Hislop, who was making

Tuesday.

can imagine, the new year game here is usually played in larly swap tapes." around 35 degrees heat. Not the best when you have a hangover, but we won it this

year: I think it was 7-2." Even thousands of miles from home, Innes admits that he and others cannot shed the Old Firm rivalry, although he keeps in touch with his Rangers counterpart in Adel-

every year," he said. "As you

"I'm quite friendly with Albert Wilson, chairman of the Adelaide Rangers Supporters' Association. We have

Doubt over Hislop

the club physiotherapist. managed to play on. Pavel Smicek, his deputy, who was due to play for the Czech Republic against Poland this weekend, is now likely to be withdrawn.

Derby County are reported to have signed two internationals from the Costa Rica club, Herediano. They are Paulo Wanchope, a striker, and Mauricio Solis, a midfield player. No fee has been announced.

to be - sometimes he has videos we want and we regu-

Paul Byres, a Rangers fan originally from Lockerbie. runs The Scots Corner restaurant in London, Ontario, and he is expecting a sell-out on Thursday afternoon. "It will be a 2.45pm kick-off here," he said. "It's a civilised kick-off but that might be the only civilised aspect to it.

Seriously, we will have around 100 punters in the restaurant, with the majority following Rangers but with Celtic fans as well."

Byres has the pies in stock for fans yearning for home cooking but, apparently, no Bovrii. Labatt's, presumably, is the alcoholic alternative.

Lighthouse men around the coast of Scotland will not be so fortunate. The Northern Lighthouse Board confirmed that their televisions only have terrestrial channels. ☐ Graeme Armstrong, 40,

moved to within 24 games of Terry Paine's British record for league appearances by an outfield player when he played his 800th match on Tuesday, for Stenhousemuir against Stranraer.

EQUESTRIANISM

Badminton loses status as key selection trial

THE Mitsubishi Badminton Horse Trials in May will no longer be the official selection trial for the Great Britain three-day event team. The change, announced yesterday by Giles Rowsell, chairman of the national selectors, is part of a shake-up within the sport after Britain's dismal results at the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

"We want to take the pres-

sure off the riders by letting it be their choice whether or not they go to Badminton." Rowsell said yesterday. "Our main object is to have fit. sound horses to choose from for the team for the Open European championships in September. Riders will now have to take a gamble and decide where best to run their horses. If we have a choice of horses in September, a top four-star performance at Badminton will obviously count more than equivalent results at a three-star event, such as Saumur in France or Bramham."

The move has been welcomed by the riders. Ian Stark, a member of the British Olympic team, described it as "long overdue". Stark, who intends to compete at Badminton this year on his team contender. Stanwick Ghost. said: "It's not so bad this year, because the Open European is a three-star event, but when there are two four-star events in one year, such as the Olympics or world championships, it will be a relief for the rider to make his own decision about Badminton."

Rowsell said that no decision had been taken on the appointment of an overall team trainer. A more pressing

concern is to fulfil the Sports Council's requirement for a performance director for the three disciplines of showjumping, horse trials and

"We are hoping for lottery-funding." Rowsell said, "but the Sports Council now says it will only deal with one performance director for the three disciplines, so that appointment is our priority at the moment. We are not ruling out an overall team trainer. but that will come later." Chris Bartle, who mas



minded Britain's excellent dressage showing in the Olympic three-day event, is continuing as dressage trainer and Graham Fletcher has been brought in as showjumping trainer. Andy Bathe is the new team veterinary surgeon. In a bid to gain some of the lottery money due to be awarded to sports science, Bathe has been asked by the Sports Council to draw up a "dream programme" for the veterinary requirements of the

SQUASH

Lingfield hang on in final straight

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

WITH two fixtures remaining in the Super Squash League, it is virtually impossible to separate the teams, and results this week did little to suggest that anything but a last, feverish gallop down the finishing straight will identify the champions.

Ellis Lingfield retain a marginal lead on countback from Dunraven Maesteg and Surbiton, and might be seen as the favourites, with the world No 2 and No 3. Rodney Eyles and Peter Nicol, leading their

But this week Eyles lost 9-5, 9-7. 8-10, 9-8 to Simon Parke, the England No I, who will lead Surbiton until they exercise the option of topping-up their squad with Jansher Khan, the world champion. Jansher arrives in Europe next week to start his preparation for the British Open championship in April.

Nicol defeated Julien Bonetat, the French No 1, 9-4. 9-5, 9-5 at second string in Surbiton, but the third-string match was secured for the home side by Denny Meddings, who beat Stepen Meads 94, 92, 96.

The unexpected defeat might have been more costly for Lingfield had Maesteg got their selection right against ICL Lionherts this week. Assurning that Mark Cairns. their British champion, would be tired from a Mercia Open final against Peter Marshall on Sunday, the Welsh side brought in Paul Gregory to lead their line against Chris Walker, Del Harris and Dan Jenson. In the event, Marshall withdrew from the tournament suffering from fatigue.

Cairns was fretting with nervous energy at courtside in Welwyn Garden City on Monday as Harris lost unexpectedly 9-4, 9-3, 9-8 to David Evans, the young Welsh champion, but then Craig van der Wath went down 9-5, 9-5, 8-10, 9-7 to Jenson and Gregory fell 9-6, 9-6. 9-5 to Walker as Lionherts recovered to win.

Maesteg will need their strongest line-up at Lingfield next week while Lionherts can increase the momentum of their title defence in an away match with Rowlands Manchester. The final fixtures pit Lionherts at home to Lingfield and Surbiton looking for maximum home points against Manchester.

SITIONS: 1, Ellis Lingfield 10pts; 2, maven Maesteg 10; 3, Surbiton 10; 4, wlands Menchester 9; 5, ICL Llonherts 9.

UNSECURED PERSONAL LOANS Mile Meresi 12.3% APR you can afford to Burton mare: 13,9% APR* A 57,000 Low 48 Monthly Payments 5215.36 5235.73 5232.77 5230.99 13.9% APR The Floyal Bank of Scotland 14.9% APR* abandoned after 20min) SELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First di-vision: Greenock Marton 0 Fallari 2 Second division: Brechn Cdy 0 Hamilton Academical 1. Chief 2 Dumberton Athletic 1. Sterhousemur 4 Stramacr 0 Third division: Arboath 1 East String 2; Ress Courty 2 Queen's Park 0 Water, 0 FAI League 2 (at Lockwith Sladium, Cardiff). DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dorchester 2 Merthyr 0: Gressley Rovers 1 Burton Albian 0, Hastings 2 Ning's Lynn 2 Nuneation 3 Chefmsford 1 Midland division: Harolicy Town 2 Evestiam Urd 1, RC Warwick 1 Raunds Town 1: Snepshod Dynamo 2 Micor Geen 4 Terrworth 0 Bluston Town 0 Southern division: Crenicater 1 Zhen 1 Fehr Athlick (London) 0 Einh and Bekneders 4 Newport loW 4, Without Town 1 Yes Town 1 Cup: Sentifical, first leg: Sudbury In 1 Warmouth 0 UniteDNID LeaGUE: Premier division: Chorley 0 Lean Town 0 Gainstorough 1 Boston United 1, Lencaster 2 Bembor Bridge 3 First division: London 2 Homogale Town 0 President's Cup: Second round: flumood 3 Barrow 1 Second-round replay. Worksop Town 0 Blyth Spartant 1 (abendoned after 25mm) League Cup: Foundition below and send to: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. First Mames (in full)

Forest fail to solve striking problem Sheffield United, but Leeds were not

THE new owners of Nottingham Forest have failed in their attempt to make Brian Deane the first signing since the £19 million takeover of the club (Richard Hobson writes). Their bid of £2.5 million was turned down by Leeds United, who are confident that Deane will sign a new contract when his present deal expires at the end of the season.

Dave Bassett, the Forest general manager, had been led to believe that Deane, 29, would be allowed to leave Elland Road, having scored just four goals in 21

UEFA CUP: Quertar-finals, first leg: Newcastle United 0 AS Monaco 1; Ander-lecht 1 Internazionale 1; Schalke 04 2 Valenca 0; Tenente 0 Brondby 1

FA CARLING PREMERSHIP: Sunderland

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Burnslay I Semoton Town 1; Birmangham City 1 Wolverhampton Wanderers 2; Chaiton Alhietic 2 Queens Park Rangers 1; Chystal Palace 1 Bolton Wanderers 1; Chystal Palace 3 Port Vale 0 Second division: Brentford 0 Wycombe Wanderers 0, Bury 2 Shrewsbury Town 0, Chestefield 1 Luton Town 1; Peterborough United 2 Wander 2, Walsal 2 Birstol City 0 Third division: Brighton 2 Northampion Town 1; Carlste United 5 Torquey United 1, Eveler City 1 Barnet 1, Wigan Athletic 2 Hartlepool 2.

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Northern section: Semi-timal: Orone Alexandre 1 Stockport County 1 (Stockport win 5-3 on

pens).
VALDGHALL CONFERENCE: Hailtæ: Town
VALDGHALL CONFERENCE: Hailtæ: Town
V; Stalybridge Cellic 2
Galleshead 5; Woking 0 Hayes 0 (malch abandoned after 20mm)

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: League of Water 0 FAI League 2 (af Lockwith Stadium, Cardiff).

TUESDAY'S FOOTBALL RESULTS

games. Forest are struggling to avoid relegation from the FA Carling Prmeiership and the owners - with Irving Scholar, the former Tottenham Hotspur chairman, pulling the strings as football consultant from his home in Monte Carlo - have highlighted a forward as the priority acquisition.

"We are in chronic need of a striker." Bassett said. "If I can find somebody capable of scoring 20 goals a season, it could keep us in the Premiership. Brian Deane did it for me for three seasons at watch Forest against Sheffield Wednes-

interested in selling."

day last night, is due to meet Bassett and Stuart Pearce, the caretaker manager until the end of the season, to discuss the club's next move this morning. With three weeks to go until the transfer deadline, Forest may turn their attentions towards an easier target. Pierre van Hooijdonk, the unsettled Celtic striker who has said that he is keen to move to Forest.

Scholar, who flew from Monaco to

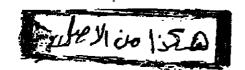
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	عورده والمساوات والمتال
LEGAL NOTICES	
KESTREL CONTRACT HIRE LIMITED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above company are required, on or before 7th April 1977, to send in their full images and sedereses, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the paners and sedereses of their selicitors (if any) to me jumic Taylor of The any) to me jumic Taylor of The April 1977, and the paners and sedereses of their selicitors (if any) to me jumic Taylor of The Road, Senthenst-on-Sen and if so required by notice in writing from me, are personally or by their selicitors, to come in and prove thair debts or claims at such these and places as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be sentlyined from the benefit of any default thereof they will be sentlyined from the benefit of any debts when proved. Dated 24/82/97 jumic Taylor LIQUIDATOR. RR. This notice is purely formal. All known creditors have been read in full but if any person considers he has a claim against the company he should send in his claim forthwith.	STAMFORD COMMUNICATIO GROUP LIMITED THE INSOLVENCY ACT 198 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN y mant to Section 96 of the law vaccy Act, 1986, that a meet of the creditors of the ab named compony will be held the offices of Poppleton Appleby, 22 High Street, M closester 41 COD on Youngday, noon, for the y mentioned in Sections 98, Subs- tion (2Xa) of the Act, Mr Stept 1 Whitwright of Poppleton Appleby, 12 High Street, M closeter 44 COD is Appenited Practioner who will fermish or Rose with such information they say reasonably Fequire, DATED THIS 3RD DAT OF HAM M M PARSONS, DIERCTOR M PARSONS, DIERCTOR T B International Limited Registered Results Registered Results Institute 28 Invalid Street Registered Results Institute 28 Invalid Street International Limited Registered Results International Limited Registered Registered Results International Results International Results International Results International Results International Results I
IN OO408 of 1997 IN THE SIGH COURT OF LISTICE CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT	Date of Appointment of Advain gradies Receiver's): 18 Febru 1997 Name of person appointing to Administrative Receiven's: M inset Bank ple Type of Security: fixed a Flouing Charge Date of Security: 11 March 19
IN THE MATTER OF THE BANK	THE OL SACRUITA: 11 March 14

In Administrative Receiveryange Registered Number: 1020563 NGTICE IS HERERY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general secting of the unsecured creditors of the above-numed company will be held at PO Box 553, 30 Earthourse Towneo, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LP on 18 March 1997 at 1200hrs for the purpose of heving a report hid purpose of heving a report hid purpose of heving a report hid

No. 003464 of 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF
IUSTICE
CHANCERY DRVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF TRADETEAM
AND IN THE MATTER OF TRADETEAM
COMPANIES ACT 1998
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
the Order of the Rich Court of



DAY VARCHAINS

RIANIS!

Injury to Grayson creates another problem at No 10

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

ENGLAND'S five nations' championship season, progressing serenely until the rude interruption by France last weekend, has taken on a more hesitant air. Injuries on Tuesday night to Paul Gray-son and Richard Hill suggest that the team to play Wales in Cardiff on March 15, scheduled to be announced today, will amount to no more than a

Grayson's injury seems the more serious. He left the field during Northampton's league game with Gloncester with a muscular problem. "I felt something pop after my first goal-kick and within a few minutes had no option but to go off," he said, leaving England in something of a quan-

East Midlands38

By DAVID HANDS

THE Barbarians celebrated.

in their customary manner,

the memory of Edgar Mobbs

at Northampton yesterday, running in 12 tries in their

frolic with the East Midlands,

but they have no more to look

forward to this season. League

rugby and the professional era have finally killed the tradi-

tional Easter tour to South

Wales and instead the Bar-

barians will take themselves

to Italy in June for further

gospei of open, adventurous

rugby. Yet the most famous

invitation club in the world

cannot be an anachronism

while so many players enjoy

The Barbarians have been

prepared to seek out players

from clubs that still appreciate

their qualities and give them

games alongside international

luminaries - thus Mark

Richardson, of Aspatria,

played in the victory over

IN BRIEF

appearing in their colours.

There they will spread their

missionary work.

dary over what has been a problem position this season. Grayson had physiotherapy on the leg yesterday and Ian McGeechan, the Northampton director of rugby, said: "The muscle has been torn and there is internal bleeding. Paul needs to get rid of that

before they can properly as-sess his condition, but, if it is

just that, he has a fighting chance of being fit for Cardiff." Should Grayson not recover in time, Mike Catt may well reclaim the No 10 jersey, or England can take the riskier option of giving a first cap to Alex King, the Wasps and England A stand-off.

Hill left the field during Saracens' victory over Orrell with a recurrence of an ankle

alongside six capped players

Northampton had hoped to

field most of their first XV in

East Midlands colours, as

they did last year, but the re-

arranged league match with

Gloucester on Tuesday

scotched that plan. East Mid-

lands, therefore, were a thinly-disguised Northampton

The Barbarians were 28-22

down at half-time, but they

turned up the power, falling

only five points short of their

SCORERS: East Mildends: Tries: Hepher, Merlin, C. Johnson, Wright, Beates, Law. Conventions: Hepher (4). Barbarians: Tries: Hopley (3), Boyd (2), Robinson, Grecian, Soully, Martin, Gardner, Sporlader, B Johnson. Conversions: Scully (4), Greche Lieu.

record in this fixture, 77 scored

development XV.

four years ago.

Barbarians turn on

style with 12-try spree

injury. "I just felt a twinge and it made sense to come off." Hill said, "but I will play for Saracens against Bristol on Sunday and will be available for selection for the match against Wales."

Wales, who are also scheduled to name a squad today. have accepted that Arwel Thomas, their stand-off, will miss the international. He must keep a brace on his injured knee for another fortnight at least, leaving the team management to decide between Jonathan Davies and Neil Jenkins, who has made a successful conversion at international level to full back.

Davies, who fractured a rib last month, claims that he will be fit to "have one last crack" at England, but it would seem far more sensible to restore Jenkins to his club position and bring Wayne Proctor in at full back, where he played well last year.

Like all first and second division clubs, those in league action on Tuesday were the first to be affected by the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) acceptance of the International Rugby Football Board's recommendation for six replacements to be available. The RFU did so on safety grounds and to lessen the potential for injury to players ighting to go with the British Lions to South Africa this summer, but McGeechan stressed that the change indicated how swiftly the new company designed to run professional rugby in England

can work.

expansion of replacements for a month," McGeechan, the Lions coach, said. "Fortunately, we have the company in operation and that means quick decisions can be taken between the RFU and the top 24 clubs. It was rugby people making a rugby decision."

The BBC will screen both matches live on the final weekend of the five nations' championship. The first half of France's pursuit of a grand siam against Scotland will be shown on BBCI and the second half on BBC2, once coverage of Wales against

"I have been fighting for an



Hill ready to be driven off his pedestal

Oliver Holt on how success last year has prepared

alfway to Australia, in one of the passenger lounges at Bangkok airport, Damon Hill was talking about his most embarrassing moments. The front wing of his Arrows had fallen off while he was driving it round Silverstone late last week, but there were only a few people there so it was low on the scale. It was an incident on his wedding day that was

uppermost in his mind. Nervous, sitting in the church on the front pew with his best man. Hill thought that he heard his wife-to-be, Georgie, coming in at the back, so he stood up. It was someone else, but Hill felt too sheepish to admit his mistake and sit down again so he stayed bolt upright for ten minutes, sweltering in his

smart suit, until she arrived.

Back on the plane, his thoughts stayed on the same tack, switching direction only slightly towards a sports-man's fear of failure. Mainly, it was the horror he had felt in the middle of last year when he watched Greg Norman blow his chance at the Masridicule would be heaped on him if he failed to hold off Jacques Villeneuve in the race for the Formula One drivers'

the world champion for a difficult season ahead team, TWR Arrows. Over the title. "That last round in Augusta was unbearable to winter, much of the early watch," Hill said, "so God

knows what Norman felt. 'It was a sobering experience for me, knowing that that would be the fate I would have to bear if I did not win the championship."

هدا من الاعليد

The point of these stories and the reason for the ease and happy animation with which Hill was relating them is that winning the world championship sluiced his life clear of embarrassment and failure and left it awash with awards and acclamation. It made his name synonymous with being a winner. "I feel like I have broken through a barrier," he said.

However, Hill, still as modest, perceptive and analytical after his title win as he was before it, is also keenly aware of the paradoxes of his situation In statistical terms at least, he is a winner who is about to become a loser, a iers and realised that the same - driver who was always at the front with Williams but, now that he has been dropped by them, is likely to be struggling near the back with his new

optimism that greeted his capture by Tom Walkinshaw. the Arrows owner, has been replaced by scarcely con-cealed dismay about the lack of power in the car's Yamaha engine. The front-wing fiasco at Silverstone even prompted a few wild rumours that Hill would quit before the season had even begun.

ill scotched those rumours on the flight L to Melbourne when he said that he was hoping to drive at the top level for several more years, but he admitted, too, that he will be forced to let the title he fought so hard to win for so many years slip away without a proper fight.
"I could be bitter and re-

sentful about not having the opportunity to defend my championship," Hill said. "I am going to have to sit by this from me without the possibility really to fight and defend it. I believe it would have been possible to win another title

this season, but it does not do to go all wistful about what might have been. The basic problems at Arrows are clear: the car is not quick enough and the engine has not got enough horsepower. The car's great, it's just a bit on the slow

"It would be fair to say that at the moment we have got more potential to improve than any other team in For-"People say it will be a great

anticlimax for me now but I never took anything for granted when I was at the front with Williams. It took me a long time to get to the top rung of the ladder and before I made it I endured driving cars that were a lot less competitive than I believe we will be this vear. I was always motivated then by the belief that that would be a temporary state of affairs and that is what will keep me going this year."

His consolation, too, will lie in the fact that he will have where he was a small cog in a big wheel. At Arrows, he is the competition."

centre of attention, the focus of everything, a man to be deferred to.

"There is only so much a driver can do at Williams, and here there is the opportunity for me to give input into a lot more areas," he said. "I always felt I was trying to prove myself, right from the moment I phoned Frank to ask for a chance as a test driver. "After that, it was trying to

persuade him I could be a racing driver, and then when Ayrton Senna died it was look, Frank, I can lead this team, I can really do it'. I was consistently trying to prove that I could do the job and I was always met with these sideways looks."

Now, though, the world champion's honeymoon is about to come to an end. When the cars take to the track for the first time this season in practice tomorrow; Hill admits that he will have to get used to a new discipline behind the wheel of the car bearing the prestigious No I on its livery.
"I didn't have to look in my

mirrors much last season," he more influence over his team would be nobody overtaking than he ever did at Williams, me. This year, let's just say I

Leicester last week, and Brian Johnson and Nick Grecian, from Newbury, revelled

d hang on

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Ryder Cup plea by **Torrance**

SAM TORRANCE, who is hoping to play in his ninth successive Ryder Cup in Valderrama, Spain, in September, has joined the growing ranks of golfers who believe that Seve Ballesteros, the Europe captain, should be given greater freedom when the team that will take on the United States is chosen.

Torrance, who plays in the Moroccan Open in Agadir this week, thinks that three players chosen by the captain plus nine selected automatically would be ideal. At present, Ballesteros can choose two players to join the first ten in the Ryder Cup points table determined by prize-money won on the European Tour by

rowed over at the top of men's division one on the opening day of Oxford University's Torpids on the Isis yesterday. In the women's division one. Osler-Green, the leaders, held off a late challenge by St Catherine's.

☐ Rowing: Oriel comfortably

☐ Ice hockey: Norman Pinnington, the Kingston Hawks forward, will be free to play this weekend after a British Ice Hockey Association disciplinary committee cleared him of head-butting in a match against Telford Tigers on February 22. Pinnington had appealed against an automatic six-game ban

☐ Hockey: Ireland's hopes of reaching the finals of the men's World Cup are virtually over after they suffered their second defeat in consecutive days at the qualifying tournament in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. The 3-1 defeat by South Korea followed a 3-1 loss to Belgium on Tuesday.

Cricket: Chris Cairns, the Nottinghamshire and New Zealand all-rounder, is expected to undergo surgery on an ankle injury at the end of the Test and one-day series against Sri Lanka later this month. He faces a six-week necuperation period.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlents 93 Claveland 88; Charlotte 105 San Antono 98; Miami 108 Detroit 99; Indiana 98 Boston 95; New York 93 Mihamulace 86; Washington 107 Philadelphia 108; Orlando 101 Seatile 99; LA Lakers 102 Delias 92; Portland 123 New Jersey 118, Houston 113 LA Cippers 108.

(woutdear and England), in Mentin (St. and Argentina), in Brown (Meltose), P. Sporieder (Curupeyti and Argentina), D. Eues (Coversity), J. Gardinar (Traviaci and Italy), Robinson replaced by R. Liley (Lebester, 80); Linnett replaced by A. Sherp (Coversity and Coversity).

BH LIARDS NORWICH: Strachen world matchpley championship: Second round: S Nasby (Eng) is E Hughes (Ine) 4-2; R Fotovar (Aus) br P Sheehen (Eng) 4-0; S Agrawal (India) to M Kothar (India) 4-1; C Shuft (Eng) bi A Potiliyan (Russ) 4-0; I Williamson (Eng) bi P Welhem (Eng) 4-0; G Sethi (India) bi M Rehari (India) 4-2; A Shandilya (India) bi S Hardesdie (Eng) 4-2. Third round: D Joshi (India) to Agrawal 4-2

BOWLS

VORK: EWIBA national championships: Champion of champions: Semi-finats: Sickman (King George Field) by J Wilson (Cumbrie) 21-5; L. Jamman (Cambridge Chestarton) bt A Hamson (Folkestone) 21-18, Final: Riciman bt Jamman 21-19, Triplae: First round: Cherwell (K Hawes) bt Colchester (B Brown) 19-7; Cambridge Chesterion (L Jamman) bt Dolphin (J Green) 24-12; King George Field (J Annan) bt Spalding (G Hamely) 22-8; Folkestone (A Hamison) bt County Arts (R Norths) 19-16; Tamworth (P Burton) bt Worthing (W Davies) 18-17; Edon, Newcastle (A Hubberd) bt Mansfield, North London (M van Pul) 19-16; Egham (K Strutt) bt Capeland, Cumbria (M Eccles) 28-9; Donyatt (J Sheckette) bt Padbrook Park, Devon (P Clark) 22-21 (after extra end), Custarterinals: Bloth, Newcastle bt Termworth 30-8; Egham bt Donyatt 25-10; Cambridge Chesterion bt Chewell 18-12; Folkestone bt King George Field 22-18, Semi-finals: Cambridge Chesterion bt Folkestone bt King George Field 22-18, Semi-finals: Cambridge Chesterion bt Folkestone 17-8, Egham bt Eldon, Newcastle 18-10

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, London: Professional bilt. Super-teetherweight (6 mds): Mate Brown (Matworth) bi Wayne Jones (Salash) rsc 3rd md. Light-middle (6 mds): Alvar Coppard (Crawley) bi Ed Robinson (Kerbsh Town) sc 1st md. Light-middle (6 mds): Anthony McPadden (ire) bi Clayton Saewart (Paddington) rsc 3th md. Middle (4 mds). Enze Glordano (Islington) bi Andy Ewen (Josvitch) rsc 3rd md. Super-middle (6 mds): Herol Graham (Shetilield) bi Craig Joseph (Bradford) pis. Cruiser (4 mds): Domrinc Negus (Hevenng) bi Niçel Relienty (Motverhampion) pis. Heavy (6 mds): Miles (Khistorm (Fin) bit Robbes Albon (Heyes) pis. Heavy (10 mos): Gamy Deleney (West Ham) bit Peter Oboh (Nigeria) disq 8th md.

HOCKEY KUJALA LUMPUR: World Cup qualifying tournement: Group A: Poland 5 Malaysia 4; Spain 4 Switzerfand 1; Canada 5 South Akloa 4 Group B: Belgium 2 Insland 1; New Zealand 3 Argentaria 1; South Korea 4 Belanus 2; New Zealand 2 Belanus 0; Insland 1 South Korea 3; WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPHONSHP. Middlesex 1 Surrey 8, Susser 3 Kent 4.

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Tampa Bay 6 NY islanders 3, New Jersey 3 Philisburgh 1: Washington 2 Calgary 1: Edmorrion 4 Los Angeles 1. LACROSSE

MILTON KEYNES: National schoolgirls tournament: McFerlane Cup (senors) semi-finals: Westonbirt 2 Harrogale Ladies 1 College 4, St Albans 0 Benerden 2 Final: College 4, St Albans 0 Benerden 0. Bentley Chattenge (jumors): Semi-finals: St Helen Chattenge (jumors): Semi-finals: St Helen and St Kathenne's 2, Habendashers' Aske's 2 (St Helen and St Kathenne's ser' Aske's 2 (St Helen and St Kathenne's won on good average sibur extra hme) Final:

St Bartholomew's 1 St Helen and St Kathemne's 2 ROWING

England begins on BBCI.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY TORPIDS
MEN; Fast division: Brasenose New
College and University both Christchurch
Lincoln bpd Worcester, Onel II Exete bpd
Wadham Today's starting order. Onel
Fernitroide, Magdalen, Brasenose New
College, University, Christ Church Lincoln
Worcester, Si Edmund Hall, Onel II Exeter
Second division: Queen's bpd Si John
Totals and Lord, Marcastel Hall College, University, Christ Chulch Lincon Worcester, St Edmund Hall, Onel II Exeter Second division: Queen's bod St John's, Thrity and Jesus bod Lady Margaret Halt, Merton bod Herthold Today's starting order: Wacham, St Catherine's Queen's St John's, Balliol, St Poter's, Tinnry, Jesus Lady Margaret Half, Kebbe, Oster-Green, Merton, Third division: St Anne's, Pembroke II bod Balliol II, Marstield bod Pembroke II bod St Edmand Half II, New College II bod Corpus Christi Todey's starting order Heritord, Wolfson Linacre St Hugh's St Anne's Marstield, Pembroke II Balliol II Onel III, New College II Corpus Christi University II Fourth division: tebbe II, Magdalien II bod Brasenose II, Exeter II bod Wodester II, Somerville, Lincoln II Lady Margaret Hall II, Wacham II is Did St I Catherne's Starting order: St Edmand Hall II Fabbe II, Magdalien II, Brasenose II Exeter II, Wolfson II, Brasenose II, Exeter II, Wolfson II, Brasenose II, Exeter II, Wolfson II, Filth division: St Peter's II. St Arne's II, Wolfson II, Filth division: St Peter's II, St Arne's II, Wolfson II, Filth division: St Peter's II, St Arne's II, Wolfson II, Pesus II bod St Bener's Hall Hod Queen's III, Wolfson II, Filth division: St Peter's II, St Arne's II, Wolfson II, Pesus II, Wolfson III, Pesus III, Wolfson III, Pesus II, Wolfson III, Pesus II, Wolfson III, Pesus III, Wolfson III, Pesus III, Wolfson III, Pesus III, Wolfson III, Pesus III, Wol

day's starting order: University IV Pembroke III, Queen's III Wacham III Catenn's III Wacham III Cathennes III, Statenose III, Manshekt II Curus Christi III, Menon IV Heitlood III Women: First division: Oriel and St Hilda S FIXTURES Kick of 7:30 unless stated Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals, first leg Barcelona v All- Solna (8 0) Rentica y Fiorentina (7 45) Tennents Scottish Cup Celtic v Rangers (7 45)

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Unliffin First Division Cup: Third-round replay Neth-rifeld v Ashion United PONTIN'S CENTRAL LEAGUE. Premier division: Notwochsm Potest v Everion (7.0) First division: West Bromwich v Port Valo (at Halusoven Town FC, 7.0) UK LIVING WOMEN'S FA CUP Sixth-round replay. Reston v Arsenal. SCHOOLS MATCHES FA Premier League SCHOOLS MATCHES FA Premier League Trophy. Under-19* Cuestre-final Hamp-shre v Surrey (at New Milton, 6-30). Under-16* Channe-final. Susses v Orbordshre: (at the Safrons 70). English Snickers Under-19 Trophy. Wolvorhampton Grammar. Weat Midlands v Ottheroe Grammar. Lancachne (2-15): Cardinal Newman. Lancachne v raic College. North East Wales (2-0).

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL Budweiser League Leopards v Worthing (7 0)

BOWLS: Women a English national indoor championships (at York) HOCKEY: Women's county champ-ionship: Berkshire v Odordchire (et Bracknet, 8.) British Aerospace under-18 achoologies championship (et Militari keynes Stadium, 9.30). bpd Pembroke University and Lady Margaret Hall bpd Christ Church Today's starting
order Oster-Green St. Catherne's, New
College, Wadhism, Somerville, Chrel, St.
Hidda's Pembroke University Lady Margaret Hall, Christ Church Timity, Second
division: Wolfson bpd Worcester Menon
bpd Hall's St. Edmund Hall bpd Balliol,
Keble bpd St. Anne's Today's starting
order, Bravenose Lincoln Herhold Wolfson, Waldester Medon Gueen's, St. Edmund Hall Balliol, lesur. Exert Heble,
Third division: Magdalen and Mansheld
bpd St. Hugh's, Magdalen and Mansheld
bpd St. Hugh's, Magdalen il bpd Pembroke
II. Lady Mangaret Hall II bod Penthole's II.
Wadham II and Corpus Christio bpd Lady
Margaret Hall II Today's starting
order. Premisen II. Wadham Corpus
Christie, Lady Margaret Hall III Fourth division ill bpd Christ Church II Today's starting
order Pembroka II. Welfound II. Regent's
Palk, St. Catherine's II., St. Edmon Hall II.,
Manon III. Herthold II. Lincoln III. St. Antony's
Wolfson III. Christ Church III Brasenose II, St.
Hugh's II.

Mobbs memorial match East Midlands 38 Barbanans

(al Northampton) COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP.
First division. oldocester 10 Nortempton rigist division, calculester 19 North implon 5, Lincester 25 Sain 9, Saracens 74 Onoff CLUB MATCH Oxford University 22 Oxfordshire 17

SAILING

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE: Fourth leg: Sydney to Cape Totan (positions at 13.00MT yestedds, with males to Cape Totan 1 Tosnita Wase Warnor 5,674, 2. Paus, to Bernember 5,670, 3, Save the Children 5,676, 4 Connect 5,676, 5 Countauts Im 5,676, 6, Group 4,5,677, 5, Connectation Union 5,678, 8 Nuclear Election 5,678, 9 Motoriola 5,678, 10, Heath National Cape 1, 13, 7 miles 1,788, 1,789, Insurenti 5,678, 11 3Com 5,682 12 Time 5 Tide 5,688, 13 Global Teamwork 5,689, 14, Occan Bover 5,695

SQUASH

KUALA LUMPUR. Women's satelite tour-nament. Semi-finals, L. Irvng. (Aug.) b) L. Jowe (NZ) 5 9 9 1 9 6, 3-0 J Wilson (NZ)

bi V Aftercon (Holf) 0-9, 10-9, 9-4, 9-2 Final Irang or Wilcon 9-4, 9-2, 9-5 ROTTERDAM Men's fournament First round Misinger (Ger) to P. Hearhuis (Hollin 6-2 6-4-4) Francis (Ger) to E. Nuclea (Stevahari 6-7-4) A. E. Tengrist (See) to B. Ularacha 2017 6-6-7-6.2 R Francisk (Holl) bi Misinger (Ger) 4-6-2 fovacció (Larita Santiale (Hollin 7-6-7-6)

SCOTTSDALE, Anzona, Men's tour-nament First round A Costa (Sp) of M-K Gottner y wat 6-4-7 to R Henry borg (US) ht V Spades (US) 7-8 to 6-6-1 (Woodfulf (US) Spaces (1/5) 7 A O A A 1 Procedure (US) by J Tameric (US) 7 a, 6 2 S Scolle (Aus) by F Clave (a) 6 2 a 1, Bit net (Zen) by M Rox (Challer) 1 4 6 7 a 1 Reprime (Swe) to A O Procedure (3 1 6 7 5 1 Reprime (Swe) to A O Procedure (3 1 6 3 6 2 P Ratter (Aus) on A A Basses (US) 6 3, 6 2 P Ratter (Aus) on A Basses (US) 6 3 b, 6 3 a Reprint (B and B) Procedure (Mexico) 6 3 b, 6 3 a Reprint (B and B) Procedure (Mexico) 6 4 6 7 6 3

POOLS DIVIDENDS

UTTLEWOODS 1644 charce 4 pc (36,905) in 10,000 to 22,000 0, 21 (5,00 from their 6,179 00 horses (85,00 from at conf. 5) VERNONS 11:14 Charter 24 pt. 65.299 for 21 (20) 37 (2) 216.94 Super Short (1990) 17 (2) 476.00 ZETTERS 1, 34 disable 24 bts 51,446,65 (1,47,75,27,9120) 21,00,30 Eggst askers 21,47,47,47,910,75,234,66,75 Four hards 217,77 from the end \$14.86,75 askers \$150,55,57,5134,60

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent This hand is from the first round of the 1996-97 Premier League.

There were two technical points in the play. East-West game

♠ X Q 10 5 **▼A10** ♦KJ7 **∳**AK63 N. +983 **\$7642 YQ**53 ♥9752 **+10632** - 5 ₽ΑJ **♥KJB4** +Q854

+J 10 7 Contract: Six No-Trumps by South. Lead: two of clubs

ing North bid Two Clubs, asking for majors. South bid Two Hearts and North raised to 4 NT. He meant that as "quantitative", ie asking South to bid on if he had a maximum. I agree with his interpretation. However, South took 4 NT as ace-asking and bid Five Hearts, so North closed the auction with an exasperated 6 NT. As it happens the cards fit together well, and I should think the overall chance is more than the 50 per cent needed to make it worthwhile at IMPs.

After declarer won the lead in dummy, the first point of technique was in the diamond suit. It is correct to lead twice towards the king-jack, in case West has ace doubleton. You don't often see it gaining in practice, as the chance of Ax with West is quite low; in addition, entry considerations frequently preclude the play. But here, declarer had two entries in spades and for once

Over South's 12-14 I NT open- the safety play paid off. West won the second diamond and exited with a spade.

How should the declarer play for his twelfth trick? He can play off the ace-king in one of the "rounded" suits (clubs or hearts) and if that queen doesn't fall take a finesse in the other. As he has more clubs that queen is more likely to fall in two rounds, so clubs should be played first. When the queen of clubs appears under the ace declarer is home. Even if declarer had equal

length in clubs and hearts, after West had led a club it would still be right to play the top clubs first. Against Notrump slams where the declaring side have shown no long suits it is best to make a passive lead, and thus West would be unlikely to lead away from the queen of clubs.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

OGOSHI a. An exclamation h. A dice game

🚓 A headsman

c. A hip throw POLER a. A sponger b. A punter at Cambridge

b. Lager

RIEGEL a. A leap at skating b. A ridge of bedrock c. A snowshoe PABST a. Sugar beet pulp

c. A Polish dance

Answers on page 46



By Raymond Keene CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Beijing wins

The six-player match between teams from London and Beijing was won by the side from China. Beijing scored ten points to London's eight and clinched the match by winning 2-1 in the sixth

University chess Today's report, giving a win apiece by both Oxford and Cambridge, concludes my coverage of this year's Varsity match, held at the Royal Automobile Club, London. Cambridge won 5½-2½ and moved into a two-match lead over the series, which started in 1873. White: Maxim Devereux

(Brasenose College, Oxford); Black: Demis Hassabis (Queens' College, Cambridge) Oxford v Cambridge, February

Sicilian Defence

2 Nt3 Nc6 4 Nxd4 **e**5 5 Nb5 Be7 9 Bd3 10 0-0 17 h4 18 f3 Nh3-21 Bg2 22 Oxg2 23 Nce3 25 Rd1 Qb5 27 Nde7+

32 Qg7 Diagram of final position

6 主義主義 建主 5 图 第 注句符

White: Louisa Orton (Christ's College, Cambridge) Black: Susan Little (Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford) Oxford v Cambridge, February

	Guioco	Piano
1	e4	e5
2	NI3	Nc6
3		d6
4		Nxd4
5		exci4
6		Be6
7		Qf6
8		Og6
9		Org2
10		c6
11	Bxd7+	Kxd7
12		Ne7
13	Rf1	Re8
14		d5
15		යැජ5
16	0-0-0	g6
17	13	Bg7
18	Nove 5	8 16
19	Nxf6	Rc8
20	Qb3+	Kvá6
21	Rd6+	Kg7
22	Be5+	K18
23	Rf6+	Ke8
24	Of7+	Black resign
		- 5

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chest Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday

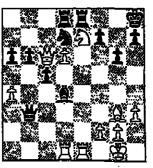
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

28 Og5

White to play. This position is from the game Maugg — Tessmer, Obersdorf 1997. White has a strong passed pawn on d6 and powerful centralised rooks. Black has therefore attempted to relieve the pressure by bringing his bishop to d4, to try and hamper White's communications. Was this a good

Solution on page 46



Golden Girls 11.00-11.30 Snowboard Show (32493505) 1.00 Albert (6945490) 1.30 ktypton Gallery (2017020) 3.00-4.00 Finday the 13th 8.00 Batman (75344) 8.30 An Attack rags and Gamour (3461438) 8.15 Gordon pop videos and the best new sounds

Champion of 95 in search of longevity

be a globetrotting sports champion at the age of 95. The secrets come straight from the lips of a man who

Everett Hosack was horn in 1902. the year when King Edward VII was crowned in Westminster Abbey and when you could have snapped up 82 acres around Earls Court, in London. complete with 1,450 houses, for just £565,000. At the weekend the remark-

able Hosack, from Ohio, in the United States, carried off three gold medals while competing as a guest in the European indoor veterans athletics championships in

He was guaranteed victory in the money on sport and the track long jump (2.00 metres), 60 metres (16.96sec) and shot (4.07 metres) simply because he was there. The veterans compete in five-year agebands, and Hosack was the only one entered in the 95 to 99 years section.

This week you could have caught up with him as he relaxed after his exhausting weekend by leaping around London, like any other tourist, on foot, bus and Tube - his gold medals jangling in his pocket and his fitness and pride in his victories

When he had seen the sights in London and Birmingham, he had plans to take in Paris before flying back across the Atlantic.

So how does he do it? What advice does he have to pass on to other would-be sportsmen and women who have long passed the milestones of

Hosack first put on running shoes when he was 21; that was back in 1923. He went to the University of Florida, where he was soon a leading

hurdler. After university he ran in a team formed by the New 'I do have a York Central Railroad, his employers, weakness for but, after the Wall Street crash of 1929, blueberry pie' the stockholders were not keen on spending

meetings ended. For the next 50 years Hosack's athletics career went into suspended animation, but he kept himself trim and his simple exercise and diet regime might serve as a model for arryone who wants to prepare themselves for a sporting old age.

As well as his tough physical work in the shunting yards of the railroad company, he lived an outdoor life in the country. He says that he had seven acres of land on which he planted 300 pine trees. "I mowed a



path around the trees and I used to run around it," he said. "It wasn't far. just a mile or so, but I would run it in five or ten minutes two or three times a week. It was much better than the sidewalk, which is too cruel on your

It was a perfect example of training that was just hard enough to keep him in good shape and health, but not so tough that it would wear him out or injure him.

Add to this half-century of regular light exercise a good marriage and sound nutrition, and you may well have the formula for long life and sporting success. Elsa, Hosack's wife, who was born of Swedish parents, is 87 years old. "We have been sweet-hearts since 1929." Hosack said, "but we couldn't get married for a while because of the Depression.'

Elsa is very strong on nutritious food. "She cuts down on all the fat." Hosack said. "She even takes the skin. off chicken for me. She fills me up with plenty of fresh vegetables and fruit; and we keep well away from anything in cans. I eat simple food, though I do have a big weakness for pies. Blueberry pie is my favourite. "I like to start every day with a

good breakfast — oatmeal and ba-nanas — but I really eat very lightly. I sometimes skip lunch altogether and just have an evening meal." At nearly off. Hosack is a sinewy

got up to 165lb," he said. "My clothes were a little tight, so I simply cut back on the food." Perhaps the secret lies in extra vitamins? "I do take an odourless

150lb. "At one time I

substitute for garlic," he said, "a one-a-day multivitamin pill and some vitamin E." However, when asked if he thinks that this is the secret of long life, he said: "It's too soon to say, I've only been taking them for the past six

Alcohol and tobacco have always been no-go areas for Hosack. "I will take an occasional drink, but I'm very blessed in that I don't care for it," he said. "They presented me with a bottle of champagne at Birmingham,

would taste just like vinegar to me." Hosack made his comeback in athletics at the age of 77, when he joined the Over The Hill Track Club. Since then he has been training regularly for an hour twice a week at a high school track. He jogs half a mile to warm up, then practises jumping, throwing and sprint starts. using spiked shoes when he runs on the track. He reckons to get ten hours or more sleep a night and does not believe in getting up

too early in the morning.
He will next com-'You should have seen me pete in Boston, in two weeks' time, in the when I was 92' hammer, his favourite event. Hosack is a

remarkable man. whipcord fit with plenty of hair, clear blue eyes and a trim white-grey moustache. If you were told that he was 20 years younger, you would not

bet against it. "If you think I look in good shape. you should have seen me when I was 92," he said. "I was as fit as a fiddle up to 92, but now the germs are

circling my wagon." They may be circling, but Hosack still looks as if he can outrun them

any time he wants. JOHN BRYANT

Alan Lee names Stewart, Croft and Gough as main tour successes

England end with favourable balance

HOW quickly things change or, more pertinently, how quickly they can appear to change. Two months ago. England skulked out of Zimbabwe trailed by words such as "disgrace" and "humiliation". Today they arrive home from New Zealand, the leadership more secure and the team more settled than it has been

Have England suddenly learnt how to play? Are they about to conquer the cricketing world? Of course not. Most of sport falls in the grey area between two extremes and England were neither as unspeakable as might be thought in the first half of their trip, nor as indestructible in the second.

They ought to have won the brief Test series against Zimbabwe, and all but did; they were then dreadful in two oneday internationals, which were the last thing people saw and the first they rememfrom winning the Test series 3-0 rather than 2-0 and even showed an overdue improvement in one-day cricket until fatigue brought them down. Zimbabwe were better than expected, New Zealand much worse. They are in a mess, their confidence low, their

pool of talent shallow; there

have been few poorer international sides in recent years. England, however, played some admirable Test cricket and established a balance that looked authoritative. The use of Robert Croft, whose selfbelief has flourished, together with Phil Tufnell offers variety and control that the endless seam-orientated attacks of the

Long may it last. For the first time in his four tours as captain, Michael Atherton is coming home with a team that could remain intact,

past few years could not rival.



Cork, left, was disappointing, but Croft blossomed

Multiple Sclerosis. Stroke.

Parkinsons Disease. Cerebral Palsy.

Head Injuries, Arthritis, Cancer.

bered. In New Zealand, better and if Atherton's conviction prepared and acclimatised, that the Australians are "vulthey were one wicket away nerable" sounds optimistic. the odds of 7-1 against England winning back the Ashes are insultingly long.

The confirmation of Atherton's position is reassuring. It was all very well to demand scapegoats, but if Atherton was to go, who would succeed him? Alec Stewart, almost 34 and already burdened with two key jobs? Nasser Hussain, whose volatility may have receded but whose captaincy experience is slim?

Atherton has stated that he wants to continue, and not merely to break Peter May's record of 41 Tests as an England captain, which he should do at Lord's in June. "The record itself isn't impor-tant," he said. "But there is a lot of scrutiny attached to this job and if it means I have coped with it in a reasonable way, that is a source of satisfaction.

He has had a good deal to cope with on this tour and has handled it quietly, equably, very much in his own way. and silent side of the England management. His public utterances have been measured and few, a description, he said. that applies equally to his team talks: "I am conscious that Graham Gooch found he was always saying the same thing and that eventually he wasn't getting through. I now prefer to speak less but make it pointed.

This is a lesson that David Lloyd, the coach, has learnt the hard way. He has been swept along on a tide of rhetoric more than once and the belated realisation that he was being ridiculed for it led to temporarily soured relations with the media. Lloyd has been innovative during his first 12 months and the players respond to him. If he is to survive the rough passages, however, his inclination to speak his mind and damn the consequences will have to be

better regulated. The imminent appointment of a press officer to accompany the team is being welcomed as a step in this direction. 'I care about the image of the team and it concerns me that the general public don't view us too kindly," Atherton said. "It is partly our own fault, partly



not, but anything that can be done to show us in a better light must be welcomed.

There have been some exceptional performers on this tour. Croft is one, Stewart and Darren Gough two more. Stewart is batting and keeping wicket better than ever; Gough has joyfully recaptured his knack for taking wickets — 26 in the five Tests - with late swing, changes of pace and the best yorker in England.

The development of John Crawley and the renaissance of Andy Caddick are further causes for satisfaction, but two members of the accepted Test side have something to prove. Nick Knight has technical flaws to resolve and will be unable to do so until his broken finger heals. Dominic Cork's problems are deeper and broader. He has not had a happy tour, bowling well below his best and occasionally behaving childishly.

The feud that simmered between Cork and Adam Parore was symptomatic of a series that was played with far more hostility than is customary between these teams. It threatened to boil over when the New Zealand manage ment officially accused Knight of cheating after he had claimed a catch at silly point in the Christchurch Test. The subsequent withdrawal of the protest could not entirely re-

pair the damage. Atherton's view of sledging is intriguing, considering the summer to come. "It's a man's world out there and it does go on, but I don't consider it an issue unless it is personally offensive or is continued off the field," he said. "Sometimes, a player can go overboard with it and it affects his cricket. Cork got distracted on this tour and I have known is happen to Australian sides in

the past." England now face a home Ashes series followed by a tour to the West Indies, a visit from South Africa and then another trip to Australia. None of these teams will be as lenient if England repeat the bad starts that hampered them in four out of five Tests this winter, but if they can break that habit, and create a virtue out of consistent selection, there is reason to be hopeful after this improbably mixed tour.

ENGLAND TOUR AVERAGES

774 173 61 61* 582 112 511 119 583 139 128 59 508 114 R C Irani A R Caddick C R Tulnell

A BREAKDOWN of England's four averages into their separate parts of Zimbabs and New Zealand reveals some intriguing contrasts in form, none more so than the case of the capitain, Michael Arterton His loss of form in Zimbabwe graphically represented by a batting average of 12.75, while his subseque rehabilitation, culminating in two epic innings at Christichurch, earned a mean 50.57 for the New Zealand leg and a respectable, if not flattering, final average on an

rehabilitation, currenaning in two epic animage of solutions of the New Zealand leg and a respectable, if not flattering, final average of 30.40.

With the exception of Nick Knight and of John Crawley, who enjoyed an outstanding tour of Zimbatowe, heading those averages with 65.60, England's specialist betamen fered better in New Zealand. Alec Stewart Istad an exceptional lour, scoring 191 runs more than his nearest rival for the top average. Jack Russell's load average against New Zealand. treat, storing in 1 first in the training in a losing cause against New Zealand.

A will be some consolation for his hisrsh treatment by the four solectors.
The bowlers' form varied fittle between the countries: Damen Gough (44) was stone in capituring 30 or more wickets and in taking ten wickets in a match (11 for 139 against Matabeteland). The two spriners. Robert Croft and Phil Tufnett, shared 662 owns for a combined return of 57 wickets at 25.21 runs aplece.

HADIO CHOICE More trouble at the Alamo

Document How Did Davy Die? Radio 4, 7.20pm.

The Davy in question is David Crocken, the legendary frontiersman The Davy in question is David Crockett, the legendary frontiersman who, when last seen on screen, was inside the skins of John Wayne and Fess Parker, swinging Old Betsy, his rifle, as 4,000 Mexicans attacked the mission building called the Alamo back in 1836. But did he really expire in a blaze of speciacular heroics? Or was he captured and executed? —a less heroic and much more controversial version of his last stand that was reported in a Mexican officer's memoirs, published in the 1950s? Fraser Harrison digs deep into the still unsolved mystery, and concludes that myth yields to truth very slowly and very reluctantly. The lost shots in the battle of the Alamo have still to be fired.

Evening Concert. Classic FM, 8.00pm.

In these relentlessly commercial times, a musical concert must have a highlight. The problem is: one person's highlight is another's lowlight. The three works we hear trought don't worry me in that way. I can't choose between Orff's Carmina Burana, Britten's sea interludes from Peter Grimes and Barber's Violin Concerto. Not all Classic FM will agree with me. Voting in their 1996 Hall of Fame, they put Carmina Burana in 35th place, 235 places ahead of the sea interfudes. The violin concerto was a non-starter, though Barber's exquisitely haunting Adagio for Strings was 19 places ahead of Orfi's

RADIO 1

7,00am Mark Raddiffe 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Greening 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session with Steve Lameco 8.30 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00em Dave Pearce

6,00am Alex Lester 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debble Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewan 5.05 Chris Serie 7.00 I'm Sorry I Haven 1 a Clue, With Humphirey Lytte-ton, Barry Cryer, Graeme Gerden, Jeremy Hardy and the late Wille Fushton in 7.30 David Altan 9.00 Paul Jones 10.00 Amazing Grace. Cy Grant presents a history of the Negro spritual 2.50 10.30 The Jamescos 12.05em (2/3) 19.30 The Jamesons 12.5 Steve Medden 3.00 Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morring Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.05pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Invender Nationwide 7.00 News 7.10 The Thursday match. SK Brann v Liverpool in the first leg of the European Cup Winner's Cup quarter-final Plus action from Celtic v Rangers in the fifth round of the Scottish Cup 10.00 News Talk with Paul Reported 11.00 News Evite with David 11.00 News Evite with 11.00 News Ev Reynolds 11.00 News Edita with Oavid McNes 12.00 After Hours — Early Call with Vincent Hanna 2.00am Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tormmy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Moz Dae's

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMIT. News on the hour All times in GMT. News on the hour5.30sm Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shelt
7.30 Network UK 8.10 Words of Feith8.15 Composer of the Month 8.45
Health Matters 9.05 World Business
Reports Roundup 10.30 BBC English
10.45 Off the Shell 11.30 Meridian On
Screen 12.05pm World Business Report
12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Assignment
2.05 Outlook 2.30 Mathrack 3.05
Scotts Roundup 3.15 Fmm Out Own 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 From Out Own Correspondent 3.30 Neswork UK 4.15 World Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.30 Assignment 7.01 Outlook 7.25 World Susiness Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridien Books 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.16 Take Five 11.15 Spundtwich 11.30 World Freihing 11.15 Soundbyte 11.30 World Ranking 12.30am Good Books 12.45 Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 Words of Faith 2.30 A History of the British Theatre 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Focus on Faith 4.30 Europe Today

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CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Breaklast Show 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto Boughton (Oboe Concerto No 1 in C reaged 3.00 Jame Crick 7.00 Classic Newsnight 7.30 Sonata. Saint-Seéns (Violin Sonata No 1 Op 75) 8.00 Evening Concert See Choice 10.00 Michael Mappin, Includes at 11.35 Noctume 1.00sm Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breaklas Experience 10.00 Graham Dene Experience 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Paul Coyle (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Randal Lee Rose:

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Includes Cricket on the Hearth); Veracini (Violin Sonata No 12 in D minor): Mozart (Sonata in flat); Wagner (Prelude: Die leistersinger); Rachmaninov (O Mother of God); Matleis (Bizzarrie All'Umor Scozzese);

9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday, Includes Handel (Water Music Suite No 3 in G); Schumann (Violin Concerto) 10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris Wines. Includes

Chabrier (España); Clementi (Piano Sonata in F sharp); Mozart (Sonata in B flat); Messiaen (Apparation de l'Eglise); Benjamin (Ringed by the Flat Horizon); Arraiga (String Quartet No 2 in A)

12.40 Mozart. Pinchas Zukerman

violin, Marc Neikrug, piano. Mozart (Violin Sonata in G) 1.00pm In Repertory. The Times opera cribc, Rodney Milnes, talks to Kurt Streit about Mozari's Belmonte (3/5)
2.00 Yevgeni Klasin. Recorde
1986 at the Festival Hall, London Bech, arr Busoni (Chaconne); Schumann

(Chacorne); Schumann (Fanlasy in C, Op 17); Beethoven (Sonala in C sharp minor. Op 27 No 2. Moonlight), Liszl (Harmonies du Sor; Chesse-Neige; Feux Follets; Wilde Jagd. Transcendental Studies)

3.15 The BBC Orchestras, BBC Symphony Orchestra under Matthias Barnert Koechin

(Vers la Voute Étoitée); Gerteind (Piano Concerto; Symphony No 3) 5.00 Music Machine, with Tommy

5.15 in Tune, with Humphrey Carpenter Gordon Jacob (Timpani Concerto); Beethoven (Variations on François Coupenn (Troisieme Leçon de Ténèbres

7.30 Clocks and Clouds With Peter Zimmermann, violin. Ravel (Suite: Mother Goose), Ligeti (Violin Concerto: Ramifications); Barlok (Music for Strings,

Percussion and Celeste)

9.20 Little England, Big World.
Aliatair Beaton is joined by
the South African writer,
performer and satirist Pieter-Dirk Uys

9.40 Smart to Be Smart Virginia Bottomiey remembers her student days at the University

9.45 A Bit of a Complex. The Ulster Orchestra, under Vernon Handley. Stanford (Prolude: Oedipus Tyrannus)

10.00 Music Restored, Kym Amps, soprano, and Terence Charlston, harpsitord, perform music by Barbara Strozzi and Emisters 200 Francesca Caccini 10.45 Night Waves. Patrick Wright

and guests discuss the state of the further education system
11.30 Composer of the Week:
Koechin (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes, with Richard Niles 1.00 Through the Hight, with Donald Macleod

4.45 Short Story: The Rules of a Man's Life, by Catherine Merriman. Read by Andy

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast

5.55 Weather
6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 Jeremy Hardy Speaks to
the Nation, with Debbie Islit
and Gordon Kennedy
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Document. See Choice (5/6)
8.00 Analysis in the lost

programme in the present series. Peter Kellner chairs a discussion about the current. strict and series of Redemption. The

writer and actor Nigel Forder reflects on enduring themes drawn from the narrative of Christ's suffering (3/6).

9.00 Does He Take Sugar? The programme made for, and by, people with disabilities.

9.30 Kaleldoscope (r) 9.59 Weather

Great Railway Bazzar, by Paul Theroux Read by

11.00 Pet Semetary. A dramatisation for radio of the

Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The

8.00 Analysis. In the last

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, includes Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in 9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze.

A discussion series chaired by Michael Buerk. With guests David Cook, Janet Daley,
Michael Mansfield, QC, and
Dr David Starkey

10.00 News; in the Balance (FM).
The tootballing cornecty ibriller
by Mark Tavener (5/6)

10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni

11.30 From Our Own

11.30 From Our Own
Correspondent Reports from
BBC correspondents around
the world
12.00 News; You and Yours,
Consumer news and current
affars with Charlotte Smith
12.25pm Foul Play, Murder
mystery panel game With
Smon Brett and guest writers
Minette Watters and Frances
Fyfield 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick
Clarke

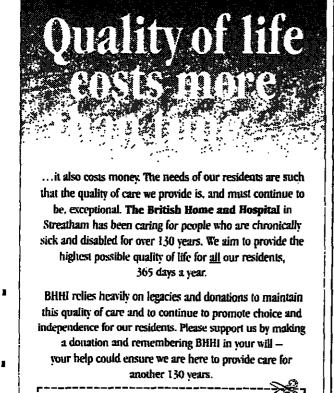
1.00 the vicino at Sire, Visit 1996.
Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55
Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Thursday Afternoon
Play: Soup. The story of a
group of homeless people.
Written and performed by
Machael Maars, (r) Michael Mears (r)
News; The Afternoon Shift.

The colebrity handresser Daniel Galvin talks to Arma 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. News 4.05 Karettroscope.

Paul Alien sees Widows, a
play by Ariel Doffman about a
group of Argentinian women
whose loved ones disappear

chilling novel by Stephen King. With John Sharian, Briony Glassco and Lee Briony Glassco and Lee
Montague (3/8)
11.30 Close Ups (FM), Nigel
Andrews latics to the
flamboyant writer-director
John Milius (5/6) (r)
11.30 Today in Paritament (LW)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late
Book The Hobbit, by
J.R.R Tolkien (4/15) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 105.3, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear. Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John Medamara.



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WORD-WATCHING OGOSHI

(c) A hip throw in Judo. From the Japanese o(u) big, major • koshi the waist or hips. "A ballet dancer broke an arm while trying an Ogoshi throw."

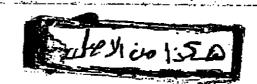
(a) A cadger or sponger in Australian slang. Someone who shirks work. "You long-jawed poler," Norman roared. "Living on the fat of the land, while your poor damn flock feeds on soup and coconuts and what they can root out of the bush."

(b) A low, transverse ridge of resistant bedrock on the floor of a glacial valley. From the Middle High German rigel a crossbar PABST

(b) The proprietary brand name of a lager beer from Milwaukee in the US. "It is impossible to think seriously with words such as Classicism, Romanticism. Humanism, or Realism. But of course these terms are not labels: they have a range of meaning very different from Pabst. Blue Ribbon or Liebfrauenmilch." SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE I Rxd4! cxd4 2 Qxd7! Rxd7 (better is 2 ... h5 but then White moves his queen

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SKY NEWS

SKY MOVIES

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.50em The Or gon Trail (1859) (7809) 7.30 Shigyard Sally (1908) (8890235)

Studies in fear, guilt and phrase-making he clever thing about last capture easily in a documentary, night's Modern Times and instead of spelling it out, (BBC2) was that its title gave Blakstad opted for expressionism. nothing away. "Hong Kong" it was plainly called, and it could Planes took off from the airport: helicopters buzzed; time was fatalhave been anything. Still, a succesly beguiled by busy-ness. In a city sion of interviews with an old

of such extreme colour and movecolonial, a young Indian journalment, it's hard to look to the future; the present is too crowded, or just against a whirling backdrop of too interesting. Jimmy, a Hong Kong newspaper proprietor who once in print maligned a Chinese government minister as "son of a turtle's egg" (whoops), sat sad and motionless in a café while blurred Lucy Blakstad that the pattern of figures criss-crossed in front. Do I stay or do I go? The idea of leaving Hong Kong made Jimmy cry. "I escaped from China," he said. "Do I escape again? That's hard, to escape twice in one life."

On camera was the consistently terrific Michael Eley, a choice which helped to make this an intensely visual film - a series of coloured banners, if you like. Just as one will remember Kavita's

plight as a former British national stranded in Hong Kong, one will remember the intense orange and white of her dress. The superficiality of her professional life - busybusy fashion journalism in a city that judges entirely by appearances - was a perfect symbol for that old inadequate panic measure of rearranging the furniture on the Titanic. "It doesn't take heritage or breeding to get into society here," she thrilled. "All you need is cash."

deciding what to do next. certain déjá vu pertained to last night's Insiders on BBCI, a series which I can't seem to leave alone. Star inmate this week was Dennis (Philip Whitchurch), a Roman Catholic priest whose guilt for a careless hit-

and-run was compounded by a

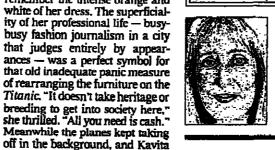
remained at street level - albeit

stunning in the orange frock -



Lynne

Truss



deeper sense of unworthiness, and a higher sense of self-sacrifice, and well, it was uncomfortably similar to the plot of Kavanagh QC on Monday, that's my point.

While the continuing saga of the pretty-boy prison officers ticked by in the background, Father Dennis wrestled with nemesis in the form of Peter Howitt — father to the child killed in the accident. Howitt had been a bad father to his son.

guilty, but had different ways of expressing it; and their respective guilts kept clambering over each other, like toads in a jar. It wasn't quite clear why the other inmates were so vile to Father Dennis, but at least he rose above it. In the end. he was duffed up by Howitt, and decided to desert the ministry for his girlfriend, on the interesting ground that God wasn't warm and didn't smell of "yesterday's soap". I'm sure God will hear this news

with mixed emotions. As for the continuing story of the prison, I keep waiting for officer Woody Pine (Adrian Rawlins) to get his turn in the spotlight, but it hasn't happened yet. Woody looks like Dennis Bergkamp (Arsenal football player), and all we know about him is that he's faultlessly hard-working, wise and compassionate. This is not enough. In fact, it's getting a bit sickening. There

you see, so now felt the need to turn has been an attempt to contrast his anger outwards. Both felt him with officer Gerry (Robert Cavanah), but it's too obviously nice cop-nasty cop — or in this case, Nice Blond Open University Sociology Degree-Nasty Dark Rules and Regulations.

Tinally, a superb subject for

Jonathan Meades last night in Even Further Abroad (BBC2). Supplying lots of scope for Meades's characteristic hifalutin phrase-making, postwar church architecture is all around us, its weird, graceless buildings monuments to fashion which will possibly never be knocked down. It's a worrying thought. We will be forever stuck with churches built during the Festival of Britain which, as Meades pointed out, was really "the Festival of Borrowing from Scandinavia".

"A phoenix in the shape of a radiogram," he dubbed Coventry Cathedral (which, incidentally, he liked). Standing inside a circular, woody effort, Meades noted, hilariously: "The ascendancy of theatrein-the-round had not escaped the Church's notice, either." In his signature Blues Brothers black suit and Ray-bans, Meades trudged miserably around grey bunkers and fancy fonts, and blamed the Church for weakly surrendering to somebody else's artistic vision, which had nothing to do with God: "It was as though the meat trade had commissioned its new abattoirs from vegans."

The usual Further Abroad buffoonery and sight-gags were naturally out in force - with sacrilege thrown in. Meades appeared walking on water, or covered in boils, or leaving an impression of his face (complete with spees) on a discarded towel. Nobody packs more into a half-hour than Meades and nobody, paradoxically, makes telly more guaranteed to fall out of fashion in no time.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (82709) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (96631) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (5481438) 9.20 Style Challenge (4738815)

ist, and a refugee from China -

planes, boats, skyscrapers and

street markets - gradually an-

nounced the theme, which was

fear of the imminent Chinese

takeover. All credit to producer

her film leach person having more

to fear than the last) only truly emerged with the final interview

subject, a young student in specs

and jeans. Jo looked carefree and

optimistic, but had in fact been

imprisoned and tortured in China

after Tiananmen Square, and was

now looking in deadly earnest for

Foreboding isn't an emotion to

"a third country" to move on to.

9.45 Kilroy (4401780) 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (39457) 11.00 News (T)news and weather (6434877) 11.05 The Really Useful Show (7046506) 11.35 Change That (8621438)

12.00 News (T), regional news and weather 12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5529709) 12.30 Going for a Song (6899877)

12.55 The Weather Show (79953341) 1.00 News (T) and weather (66490) 1.30 Regional news and weather (83630186)

1.40 Neighbours (T) (11927693) 2.05 Quincy (5369693) 2.50 As Time Goes By (r) (T) (5253544) 3.20 Noble Castles (8650803)

3.30 Playdays (r) (3001032) 3.55 Whaml Barril Strawberry Jam! (2660790) 4.10 Casper Classics (6849506) 4.10 Rugrats (1488612) 4.35 The Really Wild Show (T) 5433099) 5.00 Newsround (T) (3793902)

5.10 Grange Hill (1) (1767083) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (274693) 6.00 News (T) and weather (419)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (159) 7.00 Watchdog Consumer issues. Includes reports on private health insurance and cable television (T) (4506)

7.30 EastEnders The Fowler family are forced to face up to unpleasant truths (T) (983)

8.00 Wildlife on One: The Eagle Empire How the majestic sea eagle is making a comeback across northern Europe and Scotland (1) (3254) 8.30 A Perfect State A hard-nosed MP arrives in Flatby with orders to undermine the community's fledgling independence can the equally determined residents stop him in his tracks? Michael Aitkens's comedy stars Gwen Taylor, Rudolph Walker and David Nicholls (T) (2761)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (I), regional news and weather (4341)

9.30 Chalk Preparations for the staff meeting are interrupted when Galfast High springs a leak. School cornedy starring David

Bamber (T) (60815) 10.00 The X Files The Walk Mulder and Scully investigate claims that a phantom soldier is stalking a disabled war veteran, determined to prolong his suffering —but they have trouble collaring the culiprit (1)

(493186) 10.45 Question Time David Dimbleby hosts another topical debate from London. The panel includes Ian Histop, the Editor of Private Eye, Harriet Harman, shadow Social Sociality spokeswoman and Don Foster, the Liberal Democrats' education spokesman (1) (364419)

11.45 The Mrs Merton Show (r) (1) (968099) 12.15am Unspeakable Acts (1990) Powerful adaptation of a real-life child abuse scandal in which Jilli Clayburgh and Brad Davis star as experts attempting to gain evidence against a group of paedophites from their young victims. Directed by Linda Otto (949842)

1.45 Weather (3909587)

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allow you to programme your video recorder
Instantly with a VideoPlus+" handset. Tap in
the Video PlusCode for the programme you
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Gemetar Development Ltd.

BBC2 6.00am Open University (7417438) 6.25

Dem University (7417438) 6.25 Organelles and Origins (7429273) 6.50 Enzymes (9251902) 7.15 News (1) (7323693) 7.30 Captain Cavernan (8184235) 7.55 Blue Peter (f) (1) (3564709) 8.20 Wishing (7953196) 8.35 The Record (5140693) 9.00 The Science Collection (4716693) 9.25 Job Bank (7035709) 9.40 Megamaths (4876761) 10.00 Playdays (50341) 10.30 Storytime (7296896) 10.45 The Experimenter (7296896) 10.45 The Experimenter (2592544) 11.95 Space Ark (6448070) 11.15 In Living Memory (9407815) 11.35 Landmarks (T) (8638728) 11.55 Techno (9245709) 12.15pm Quinze Minutes Plus (5681693) 12.30 Working Lunch (4893) 1.00 Liteschool (82382867) 1.25 Isabel (47749902) 1.45 Numbertime

(83617235) 2.00 Wishing (36249964) 2.10 Everyone's Got One (2408457) 3.00 News (T) (4050849) 3.05 Westminster (4140612) 3.55 News (T) 4.00 Today's the Day (612) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (896) 5.00 Esther (r) (5612)

5.30 Seniors Pot Black Graham Miles v Rex Williams (148) 6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1) (779588)

6.45 Quantum Leap (r) (234032)

7.30 First Sight: Let's Mention the War A group of sixth formers visit the site where Hitter addressed the Nuremburg rallies and make an emotional visit to the death camp at Auschwitz. How will their visit affect their views on a united Europe? (1) (525) WALES: Surely Some Mistake? EAST: Mater of Fact MIDLANDS: Midlands Report NORTH/NORTH EAST/NORTH WEST/SOUTH WEST/

WEST: Close Up SOUTH: Southern Eye 8.00 Surely Some Mistake? Former PR guru Lynne Franks, describes what went wrong with Viva Radio: the station aimed at women

8.30 Top Gear Jeremy Clarkson test-drives the new breed of supertrucks and Chris Goffey reports on the return of a British Spades (3631)



Desperate Heather Osborne (9.00pm)

9,00 Hortzon: Fat Cats, Thin Mice A report on obesity and the products designed to help us prevent the pounds piling on (T) (158815)

9.50 Sportsnight Highlights of the first-leg of the European Cup Winners Cup between SK Brann and Liverpool (682983) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (529235) 11.15 Late Review (854693)

11.55 Skiing Forecast (706490)

12.00 The Midnight Hour (57823)

12.30am The Learning Zone: O.U.: Introduction to Psychology (34484) 1.00 From a Different Shore (32262) 2.00 Health and Salety (97216) 4.00 Suenos — World Spanish (77668) 5.00 Business and Work (95804)

CHOICE Wildlife On One: The Eagle Empire

BBC1, 8.00pm Meet the white-tailed sea eagle, the largest bird of prey in northern Europe, and, for the purposes of a wildlife film, immensely photogenic. Mike Richards, the cameramanphotogenic. Mike Richards, the cameramandirector, has the perfect subject and he does not waste it. Taking his lens to the coast of Arctic Norway, he gives us a season-by-season account of the great predator's feeding and breeding. The eagle is a master scavenger, whether it is plucking fish out of the sea in its claws, stealing a meal from an otter or moving in on a stillborn reindeer calf. Relatively free from the persecution and pollution which afflicts the eagle elsewhere. Norway has become one of its favourite habitats. It is also being re-established in Scotland.

Surely Some Mistake? BBC2, 8.00pm (Wales, 7.30pm; not Scotland or Northern Ireland)

Another entertaining trawl through great business blunders features, among others, Lynne Franks, the public relations guru who allegedly inspired the Jennifer Saunders character in Absolutely Fabulous. Franks was a prime mover behind Viva, a London and in the public statement of the pub radio station aimed at women. The project was fated even before its launch when Katie Turner, the managing director, suffered a brain haemorrhage. But Viva failed because hardly anybody tuned in. Franks and Turner recall the disaster with a commendable lack of embarrassment. We also hear about a restaurant where staff thought that free food and drink was a perk of the job and the curious tale of Tie Rack and Sock Shop, two distinct businesses which became so linked in the public mind that the failure of the second helped to drag down the first.

Shop Till You Drop Channel 4, 8.00pm

According to people who call themselves retail anthropologists, supermarket shoppers can be divided into six groups. The theory is given substance in an entertaining guide which calls on real trolley-pushers to match up to the stereotypes. The "diehards" are shoppers of habit, who buy the same things every time, never try anything new and complain dreadfully if anything is moved to another shelf. At the opposite extreme are the "self-indulgents", prepared to experiment and with the money to do it. And so on down a list that includes those who buy green, those who buy anything as long it is cheap, those who hate shopping and get through as quickly as possible and the supermarkets' favourite customers, the "comfortable and contented" who have the time and the money and stock up in

Horizon: Fat Cats, Thin Mice

BBC2, 9.00pm For once the scientifically challenged need have no fears. Deborah Cadbury's film on obesity and ways of dealing with it could not be more accessible, and since it applies to so many of us, it is essential, if uncomfortable, viewing. Cadbury's starting point is an organisation in the United States which tries to make the most of fatness and rejects the idea that being overweight is unhealthy. Rubbish, retorts Dr Nick Fisher, a British obesity specialist, and he goes on to list a raft of conditions for which obesity can be responsible, including heart disease, damaged joints, breathing difficulties and, not least, diabetes, Chillingly, the risks can start at only half a stone overweight. The best remedies may lie in diet and exercise but Cadbury also looks at stomach-stapling, the claims of slimming products and genetic experiments on mice. Peter Waymark

No. 1. Wiley September 1997 6.00am GMTV (6885254)

9.25 Chain Letters (4713506) 9.55 Regional News (T) (5505693) 10.00 The Time, the Place (54167) 10.30 This Morning (T) (37791542) 12.20pm Regional News (1) (7577490) 12.30 News (T) and weather (6817273)

12.54 HTV Crimestoppers (79956438) 12.55 Shortland Street (6892964) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (47727780) 1.50 Alternoon Live (11932525) 2.20 Vanessa (T) (56984032) 2.50 Afternoon Live

(5248612) 3.20 News (T) (5193269)

3.25 Regional News (T) (5400380) 3.30 The Riddlers (9715029) 3.40 Wizadora (r) (9941322) 3.50 Carton Time (6846419) 3.55 Rupert (r) (5484877) 4.20 Mike and Angelo (1479964) 4.45 Reboot ii (5417051)

5.10 A Country Practice (5662167) 5.40 News (i) and weather (457099) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (291896) 6.25 HTV Weather (177877) 6.30 HTV News (167)

7.00 Emmerdale As the police begin their official investigation into a suspicious death. Frank wonders if he has finally reached the end of the road (T) (2902) 7.30 3-D An investigation into the controversial nanny-cam, a device used by American parents to spy on their



Blake and Cryer investigate (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill: Holding On When a young man claims his car has been stolen with his tour-month-old baby inside, Cryer and Blake lead the hunt to find the thief and avoid a tragedy (T) (8322)

8.30 Michael Barrymore's Strike It Rich (T) Game Show (7457) 9 no Recidese Richard and Owen meet to

discuss the future (T) (6051) 10.00 News (T) and weather (16506) 10.30 Regional News (1) (705341)

10.40 The West This Week On the eve of the Liberal Democrats' spring conference, Paddy Ashdown gives an exclusive interview on his party's election prospects. Plus, Richard Lyddon looks at the effects of privatising British Rail on the passengers (545273)

11.25 Frieze Frame: Horse Hair and Frogs Focusing on John Stagg one of the world's foremost bowmakers (894001) 11.40 Hunter (r) (211964)

12.35am in Bed with MeDinner (5827842) 1.05 Funny Business (3381281) 1.40 Cyber Cafe (8745113) 2.05 Stand and Deliver (r) (4155007) 3.05 3-D (r) (T) (65839755) 3.35 The Good Sex Guide Late (r) (8021674) 4.30 The Time, the Place (r) (79200) 5.00 The New Mr and Mrs Show (r) (24262) 5.30 News (52378)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (6892964) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5662167) 6.25 Central News (209815) 6.55-7.00 Lifeline (155815) 10.40 Crime Stalker (681344)

11.40 Do I Not Like Thati (960728) 12.40am Funny Business (4090281) 1.15 Ed's Night Party (2432264) 1.40 Club Nation (3470129)

2.40 Shift (4318649) 3.35 Stand and Deliver (8021674) 4.35 Central Jobfinder '97 (8109674) 5.20 Asian Eye (8321939)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 Emmerdale (6892964) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5662167) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (50438) 10.40 Power Game (438148) 11.10 Tales from the Cider County (173728) 11.40 Traps (211964)

AMERICAN S. THE

As HTV West except: 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5662167) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (815) 6.30-7.00 Getaways (167) 10.40 Meridian Focus (438148)

11.10 R.J. Mitchell - Birth of a Spitfire (325506) 12.05am Short Story Cinema (6206465)

5.00 Freescreen (24262) A STATE OF THE STA As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (6892964)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5662167) a Westner (7/8506) 6.25 Anglia News (209815) 6.55-7.00 What's On (155815) 10.40 Cover Story (438148)

11.10 Hunter (483344) 12.10am Alfred Hitchcock Presents (7833723)

SALTE VISION STATES

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (75419) 7.00 The Big Breekfast (89341) 9.00 Bewitched (26983) 9.30 Yacolion (950983) 12.00 House to House (13419)

12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (33761) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (99728) 1.30 Film: Carry on Admiral (81964)

3.00 Collectors' Lot (5235) 3.30 Ricki Lake (273) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (780)

4.30 Howard Goodall's Organ Works (964) 5,00 5 Pump (3380) 5.30 Countdown (544)

6.00 Newyddion (815525) 6.05 Heno (202902) 6.35 Jacpot (184167) 7.00 Pobol v Cwm (312273) 7.25 Pwy 'Di Pwy? (654032)

8.00 Pam Fi Duw? (6964)

8.30 Newyddion (5099) 9.00 Heroes of Cornedy (4693) 10.00 Film: Damage (54986032) 12.05am Dispatches (8289552)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (75419) 7.00 The Big Brealdast (89341) 9.00 Bewitched (f) (T)

9.30 Schools (950983)

12.00 House to House (13419) 12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (r) (33761) 1.00 Cybill (r) (T) (60782083) 1.25 Pat and Mat (47725322)

1.50 Footsteps in the Fog (1955) With Stewart Granger and Jean Simmons. Edwardian melodrama about a wifepoisoner who tries to murder the maid who is blackmailing him. Directed by Arthur Lubin (89299254)

3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (273) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1) (780) 4.30 Countdown (1) (964) 5.00 Rickl Lake (1) (3380) 5.30 Pet Rescue (1) (544)

6.00 Hangin' with Mr Cooper (T) (457) 6.30 Hollyoaks Teen soap (T) (709) 7.00 Channel 4 News (278934)

7.50 Winners and Losers (155344) Shop Till You Drop The habits and quirks of shoppers

(2/4) (T) (6964) 8.30 TV Dinners in the last of the series Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall takes another look at two of his favourite dinners from the series. Eddle Baines and Steve Donovan prepare a special anniversary meal for their wives and Felicity Keebeugh transforms her flat into cavewoman's den

with a menu to match (9/9) (1) (5099) 9.00 Dispatches An inside account of the underworld of drugs and crime that lead to teenager Leah Betts's death in a Basildon nightclub (T) (493490)

9.45 Bright Sparks The story of Wolfie, a thythm and blues harmonics alayer who tours the London pubs (1) (830235)



10.00 Hope and Glory (1987) John Boorman's autobiographical memoir of an ordinary tamily living in London during the Second World War Biltz, as seen through the eyes of a nine-year-old boy. With Sebastian Rice-Edwards, Sarah Miles and lan Bannen (54986032)

12.05am The Unpleasant World of Penn and Teller (r) (T) (6204007)

12.35 Drowning by Bullets A documentary look at the massacre of Algerians by the French police that took place in Paris In October, 1961 (r) (T) (5164200) 1.35 Nothing But the Truth The rights and

wrongs of a book written by a former Highgrove housekeeper being banned in Britain but on sale in other parts of the world. Last in series (r) (3399200) 2.35 Nomads Siberia's Evenki reindeet herders. Last in series (r) (T) (4991303) 3.35 Schools: Reform and Reaction 4.00 Encyclopaeida Galactia 4.10 Russia 4.30 Schools at Work 4.35 The Gilttering Haze

5.05 An Inner City Rfot (322281)

5.30 Backdate (r) (1) (43620)

TLC/DISCOVERY

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1 6.00am Morning Glory (340877) 9.00 Regis and Kathle Lee (45780) 10.00 Another World (31728) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (11954) 12.00 Oprah Welkey (74032) 1.00pm Geraldo (83780) 2.00 Sally Jessy Rachael (79409) 3.00 Jenny Jones (90505) 4.00 Oprah Wintey (94411) 5.00 Str The New Generation (4761) 6.00 Real TV 100 Near Generation (4761) 4:50 Near 1965 (4099) 8:30 Married — with Children (8061) 7:30 The Simpsons (5490) 7:30 M*A*S*H (4235) 8:00 Just Kidding (1438) 8:30 The Nanty (3273) 9:00 Sentiald (34475) 9:30 Northy (34/3) NUU Serreto (34475) 9-30 Med About You (75781) 10.00 Chicago Hope (45544) 11.00 Seine Scott (44970) 11.30 Star Trek: The Next Generation (70867) 12.30em LAPD (54216) 1.00 Hit

SKY 2 7.00pm Hercules: The Legendary Journeys (5198877) 8.00 Sliders (5107525) 9.00 Highlander (6187761) 10.00 Tek Wer (6197148) 11.00 Lale Show (6711051) 12.00 Hit Mix (9511991)

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours à day, seven days a week

5.05am MacShayne: Final Roll of the Dice (1978) (72772186) 8.00 Stiver Boars (1978) (83070) 10.00 Neverending Story III: Return to Fantasia (1994) (89341) 12.00 The Mejor and the Minor (1942) (83663) 2.00pm Mess Appeal (1984) (30986) 4.00 Freetal: Ffigot 174 (1933) (8323) 8.00 Police Academy Viz, Mission to Missecow (1994) (36142157) 7.40 US to Moscow (1994) (35142157) 7,40 US Top 10 (196322) 8,00 Problem Child III (1995) (31039) 9,30 Movie Show (75047) 15) (31099) 9.30 Movie Show (76047) (1995) (31095) 9.30 Movie Short (1941) 10.00 Hosdie Force (1986) (745877) 11.40 Once Were Warriors (1996) (81902) 1.20cm Sheeping Dogs (1977) (34626) 3.05 A Wellt with Love and Death (1969) (8516945) 4.35 Mac-Shayne: Final Roll of the Dice (1993)

8.50 Willy Fog: Around the World in 80 Days (4319693) 10.10 The St Tammany Mirsole (1994) (40478273) 12.00 My Family Transure (1993) (81235) 2.00 My The Pride of Jesse Hallam (1981) (3438) 4.00 The Itid from Left (1979) (7235) 6.00 Monkey Trouble (1994) (47902) 8.00 Schhollar's List (65040505) 11.15 Boys on the (1993) (00140500) 17.15 Boys on the Side (1985) (820070) 1.15em A Woman Scorned (1983) (131179) 3.05 Judicial Consent (1993) (498397) 4.45 Monkey Trouble (1994) (85109378) SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm The Lost Weekend (1945) (3983883) 8.00 I'm Gonna Git You, Sucks (3983693) 8.00 f/m Gonna Gar You, Suckin (1989) (3995438) 10,00 The Naked Gun (1988) (7190341) 11.30 The Beest (1988) (5354738) 1.25mm Hush, Hush, Sweet Charlotte (1965) (73193484) 3.40-5.30 Ninotchia (1939) (1915842) CARTOON NETWORK/INT

Continuous cartoons from Sam to 9pm, Commons control of the Thesire (1993) 9.00pm A Life in the Thesire (1993) 192296877) 11.00 Loille (1962) (33584983) 1.36am The Level One (1965) (3384668) 3.40-5.00 A Time to (1965) (93894668) 3 (CB) (1955) (2196282 THE DISNEY CHANNEL

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over at 10pm.
6.00em Mouse Tracks (6874685) 6.26

Quack Attack (732970) 6.90 Bonkers (732970) 7.15 Little Mermati (1007341) 7.40 Alectin (2383051) 8.06 Michay Ducks (3403167) 8.30 Timon and Pumbas (7937593) 8.40 Care Bears (1884099) 9.10 Grounding Mersh (2203186) 9.40 Big Gerage (8479167) 9.55 Larrio Crop (8291235) 10.25 Mupper Bebass (582235) 10.50 Dumbo's Circus (1286322) 11.20 Mouse Tracks (4830877) 11.50 Pooh Corner (1311612) 12.20pm Timon and (8895254) 1.00 Best of Disney (1981728) 1.50 Alactin (52002877) 2.10 Darkwing Duck (53346983) 2.35 Bonkers (5182419) 2.00 Queck Allack (6738239) 3.25 Timon (1981728) 1.40 Curren (1981728) 2.35 Good Timon (1981728) 1.35 Good Ti Duck (\$3348983) 2.35 Bonkers (\$182419) 3.00 Quack Affack (6738439) 3.25 Timon and Pumbas (4126780) 3.35 Good Troop (\$118963) 4.00 Timon and Pumbas (4239235) 4.10 Good Troop (\$555438) 4.35 Bonkers (\$171709) 5.00 Alacidin (4848001) 5.25 Timon and Pumbas (8676506) 5.35 Qeriewing Duck (175893) 6.00 Bore Chillers (8877) 5.30 Boy Meets World (2457) 7.00 Deve's World (6544) 7.30 Fil.Mt Song of Herweiths (89728) 3.30-10.00 Golden Gats

FOX KIDS NETWORK 6.00am Three Little Gnosts (5566167) 8.30 Inspector Geologi (7767815) 7.00 Semular Pizza Cata (6736831) 7.30 Power Rangers (6721438) 8.00 Masked Rider (7792780) 8.30 Crocadoo (7791051) 8.00 Rimba s Island (5683902) 9.25 Why Why Family (2489902) 9.30 Zoobtee Zoo (3159490) 9.55 Why Why Family (8318709) 10.30 Doobtee Zoo (83032490) 10.55 Why Why Family (8318709) 10.30 Doobtee Zoo (93032490) 10.55 Why Why Family (82191254) 11.00 Princess Starta (2250506) 11.30 Princess Starta (2250506) 11.30 Princess Starta (2250506) 11.30 Princess Starta (2250506) 11.30 Princess (23146649) 1.10 Masked Rider (25848457) 1.30 Ace Ventura (8594896) 2.00 Casper (39053470) 2.30 Life with Loue (7003387) 3.00 Eet-Smaragarca (4865644) 3.30 Ace Ventura (85858475) 4.00 Casper (300524) 5.00 Maskad Rider (4838761) 5.30 Spoterman (980916) 8.00 Caspechumps (25158439) 6.30-7.00 Sweet Valley High (2958031) SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00am Sports Centre (58419) 7.30 World Whesting Federation (93322) 8.30 Recing News (74983) 9.00 Sports Centre (65035) 9.30 Aerobics Oz Style (63047) 19.00 Futbol Mundial (43099) 10.30 Live Golf Moroccan Open (84186) 12.30pm World of Super League (74709) 2.30 Fulbol Mundal (4896) 3.00 Live Goll Moroccan Open (64099) 4.59 Sports Centre (6269032) 5.00 World Wresting Federation (9235) 6.00 Sports Centre (5525) 6.30 Nutbusters (8877) 7.00 Tempert's Scotlish Cup Fifth (8877) 700 tempora santa Cup miles Round Celtr. v Rangels — Line (188964) 10.00 Sports Centre (86729) 10.30 Angling Maslets (38496) 11.30 Golf Morroccan Open (50029) 1,30mm Angling Maslets (12281) 2,30-3,00 Sports Centre (32397)

8.00pm Anging Masters (4884709) 8.00 Golf Doral Ryder Open (4887896) 11.00 Bobby Charllon's Scrapbook (8674506) 12.30-1.00 Second Innings (3121754) SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (54680051) 12.30pm Beach Volleyball (28259438) 1.30 Sea TV (56718693) 2.00 inside the PGA Tour (70861148) 2.30 Grass Roots Rugby (83900070) 3.00 Live Chicket (2907202)

SKY SPORTS 2



Ray Milland and Howard Da Silva (Sky Movies Gold, 6.00pm)

7.30am | questransm (88490) 8.30 Saling (69051) 9.00 ATP Tour Review (83631) 9.30 resus il sutta all'i forii nevele (\$3831) 9-30. Figure Skalarg (\$7390) 11.00 Motors (\$4070) 12.00 Cross-Country Sking (\$7186) 1.00pm showboarding (\$3506) 2.00 Tennis ABN/AMNO World Tormsment — Tive 16 1/8/1) 4.00 Tive? Racing (42983/5.00 FA Cup Finals 1986 and 1989 (7631) 6.00 Sking (57970) 7.00 Football 57 Brann v Enzepuol - Live (44992877) 9.15 European Cup Winners Cup (760709) 10.00 Shooker European Open (19419) 12.00-12.30mm San Magazine (37007)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am krypton Factor C100254) 6.30 Once Upon a Time 1999/miki9 6.45 Cur Backgord (1510576) 7.00 Alphabet Zoo (460076) 7.15 Cincc Upon a Time (501365) 7.30 Return at the Anticlope (606554) 8.00 Classic Corporation St (425634) 8.30 Facility 3.4546(2) 9.00 The Professionals (11902) 10.00 Second Thoughts (7350%) 10.30 Ivols Company (4241148) 11.00 Waten These Walt (6074902) 12.00 Classic Corporation St (4265729) 12.30pm Families (7137148) 1.00 Albion Market (645490) 1.30 krypton

Factor (7136419) 2.00 Drummonds (7351780) 3.00 Upstars, Downstars (1153254) 4.00 Doctor Senes (6383612) 4,30 Second Thoughts (6399696) 5,00 The Protessionals (6470438) 6,00 Families (6370761) 6.00 Classic Coronation St. (7145167) 7.00 Doctor Series (6471167) 7.30 Two's Company (6390525) 8.00 Upsteins Downsters (7878984) 9.00 Classic Coronation St (2296419) **9.35** Good Life Guide (2052612) **10.00-11,00** The Prolessionals (7891815) From 11.00om-2.00am Men and Motors GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From **9,00-12,00** Food and **Win**e From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Beauty From 3.00-6.00 Home and Garden THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Biography General MacArthur (8497902) 5.00 Our Century (3143525) 6.00-8.00 History Alive Special (4876780)

From 6.00em-9.00 TV High Street

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 1.00em Twight Zone (1311129) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (3361939) 2.00 100 frers of Honor (7267723) 2.30 Night Gallery (2017020) 3.00-4.00 Enday the 13th

9.00em Joy of Painting (2346902) 9.30 Grow with Joe (2166709) 10.00 Two's Country Cooking (4716070) 10.30 Our House (2342186) 11.00 Fa II (5882089) 11.30 Tas Old House (5883726) 12.00 Versetile Vegetables (2333438) 12.30pm Graham Kerr (2160525) 1.00 Today's Gour-Graham Kerr (2160525) 1.00 Todey's Gour-met (8672544) 1.30 Home Again (216985) 2.00 Homeline (4619877) 2.30 Furniture (8741544) 3.00 Two's Country (4621612) 3.33-4.00 This Old House (8713761) DISCOVERY falces over et 4.00pm. 4.00pm Fishing Adventures II (8732896) 4.30 Bush Tucker Man (8721780) 3.00 Treasure Hunters (4633457) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (8712032) 6.00 Wild Things (8742273) 8.30 Wild Things (873853) 7.00 Beyond 2000 (4613693) 7.30 Wonders of Weather (8739709) 8.00 Protessonals (3901508) 8.00 Top Marques II (5862235) 9.30 Dissser (2140761) 10.00 Medical Detec-tives (2334167) 11.00 Last Great Roadrace (8322902) 1.00em Roadshow (4688200) 1.30-2.00 Extremists (8206910)

UK GOLD

7.00em Tellystack (6072883) 7.35 Neighbours (9837273) 8.00 Crossmads (1509148) 8.25 EastEnders (8883780) 9.00 The Bill (2215032) 9.00 Bread (2169167) 10.00 Never the Twein (4725729) 10.30 The Suffixers (2344544) 11.00 Julies Brave (3244544) 11.00 Crossmads (2345946) (8870186) 12.00 Crossroads (2335896) 12.30pm Neighbours (2162983) 1.00 East-Enders (9872439) 1.35 No Place Like Home (3986815) 2.10 Emery (28177612) 2.20 Three Up., Two Down (1694475) 3.00 Tellystack (4823070) 3.30 The 88 (8722419) 4,00 At Creatures Great and Small (5875709) 5.00 Full House (4712411) Small (5875709) 5.00 Full House (4712411)
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Equalizer (9079254) 10.30 Rowland Rivron
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(8496709) 11.35 Alexel Sayle (3202709)
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6.00am Killer Tornatoes (89148) 6.30 Count Duckula (10761) 7.00 Rocko Court Ducisus (10761) 7,000 Hocks (9954544) 7,15 Hey Amold (800998) 7,30 Rugrats (88896) 8,00 Doug (73254) 8,30 Arthur (72525) 9,00 Children's BBC (83259) 10,00 Wirmze's House (34341) 10,30 Baber (\$761) 11.00 Megic School Bus (\$7671) (\$761) 11.00 Megic School Bus (\$7877) 11.30 Henry's Cal/Wil Cwac Cwac/Luzzia's Library/Topsey and Tim/Jimbo (\$2506) 12.00 Beneras in Pyames (*78341) 12.30pas Little Bear Stories (41825) 1.00 12.30pm Little Bear Stories (41825) 1.00 Chaidren's BBC (48032) 1.30 Chaidren's BBC (57915) 2.00 Dr Seuss (7460) 2.30 Kissyfur (2438) 3.00 Wishborne (6525) 3.30 Stickin' Around (7683) 4.00 Bruno the Kid (6490) 4.30 Fugmais (6902) 5.00 Sister (1070) 5.30 Moeshe (5254) 6.00 Press Gang (3187) 6.30-7.00 Doug (4419)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00cm E UK (8506) 7.30 Roseanne (6631) 8.00 Roseanne (7254) 8.30 Monty Python (6761) 9.00 Cheers (44341) 9.30 Taid (81761) 10.00 Garry Shandling (77070) 10.30 Fraser (53490) 11.00 The Doctor is On (56188) 11.30 Monty Python (30525) 12.00 Nurses (33281) 12.30mm Scep (94804) 1.00 Cheers (76568) 1.30 Tax (98007) 2.00 E UK (11804) 2.39 The Doctor is On (30939) 3.00 Freeier (56804) 3.30-4.00 Garry Shandling (14991)

8.00pm Robocop (3998032) 9.00 Burning Zone (3918886) 10.00 Tour of Dufy (3911983) 11.00 FILM: Hell's Angels on (391923) 17.00 PILM: Not 3 Angues of Wheels (6326728) 1.00em Burning Zone (842020) 2.00 Tour of Duty (8050129) 3.00 PILM: Hell's Angels on Wheels (2094533) 5.00 Roboccop (8377303)

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Elliott (8423544) 10.05 Jerry Springer (4580070) 11.00 Young and the Restless (9971099) 11.45 Super Fresco Fabulosious (8371099) 11.45 Super Fresco Fabulosious (44341693) 11.50 Brooteide (2004571 12.25pm Why Me? (70674222) 12.55 Tempest (2269167) 1.40 Rolands (3669780) 2.30 Agony Experience (2670984) 3.00 Live at Three (49279438) 4.05 Jeny Springer (5251896) 5.05 Lingo (84935419) 5.30 Lucky Ladders (2674780) 6.00 I Dream dearning (8494781) 4.95 Beachy, Sporty Jeannie (6940761) 6.35 Ready, Sleady Cook (3538780) 7.05 Brookside (1527457) 7.40 Who's Sony Now? (6546457): Rolonda (6653902) 9.00 Fil.M: Run Your Life (64607254) 10.55 Sex (3996273) 11.25-12.00 More Sex Life CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Prize Time (8679893) 5.05 Biock-busters (1998148) 5.35 Prize Time (270902) 5.50 Spellbound (183902) 6.20 Prize Time (789761) 6.30 Catchphrese (256952) 6.55 Prize Time (509186) 7.05 Sale of the Century (117780) 7.30 Prize Time (822457) Cortuny (117780) 7.30 Prize Time (822457) 7.40 Gives Us a Clue (\$28963) 8.10 Prize Time (800544) 8.20 All Clued Up (856803) 8.50 Prize Time (893544) 9.00 Through the Keyhole (318438) 9.25 Prize Time (752235) 9.35 Busman's Holiday (256977) 10.00 Prize Time (860761) 10.05 Treasure Hunt (787902) 11.05 Prize Time (386490) 11.20 Love at First Sight (799815) 11.45 Prize Time (640235) 12.00 Sale of the Century (86755) 12.20am Hart to Hart (33552) 1.30 Love at First Sight (3505) 2.30 Snowy River: The McCiregor Sage (11649) 9.30 All Together

McGregor Saga. (11649). 3.30 Ali Togethei Now (69465). 4.00-5.00 Fall Guy (75262) ZEE TV

7.00cm Jaagren 7.30 ZEE Morning 8.30 Business 9.00 Hasya Tena Gher Vasya 9.30 Compus 10.00 Sehii 11.00 Aashlana 9.30 Compus 10.00 Sehr 11.00 Assherat 11.30 Banegi April Bast 12.00 Dastaen 12.30pm Saude 1.00 Hind: FRUM: Taxil Chor 4.00 ZEE Zone Presents 4.10 ZEE Top 10 5.10 Vivram Aur Beatal 8.00 Sony Meri Lony 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Euro Zindagi 7.30 Chemagic 8.00 News 8.30 Andez 9.05 Jeel 9.30 Hasretain 10.00 Commander 10.30 Song Yasira 11.00 Zee Horror Shout 11.30 L.20 See N. Feermeleh Horror Show 11.30-12.00 Aan Ki Fe

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FINAL PARTY WOX



THURSDAY MARCH 6 1997

Striker may miss European tie

Liverpool lose patience with Collymore

STAN COLLYMORE, Liverpool's £8 million forward signed from Nottingham Forest at the beginning of last season, may think he is a gift to the game. He is likely to discover tonight that the door is open for him to move on once more. He is unlikely to play in Liverpool's Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final first leg against SK Brann. Roy Evans, the Liverpool

manager, has two dilemmas: whether to include the disaffected, moody Collymore, who was substituted in their defeat by Aston Villa on Sunday. and, with the injured Mark Wright left behind on Mersey side, who should be his third defender with Ruddock and Matteo - Babb, Rob Jones or Harkness. Ruddock himself has not been a starting choice since January.

There was a time when a trip to Norway for any promi-nent English club was no more than an informal training stint. No longer. Liverpool have enough problems here in imposing, panoramic, rain-swept Bergen tonight to be aware that any errors may jeopardise a place in the semi-

Although Brann will be handicapped by the fact that they are returning to action after their winter break, they defeated PSV Eindhoven, the Dutch league leaders, to reach

the quarter-final. Their striker, Mons Ivar Mielde, has scored 12 goals in European competition and is capable of unhingeing the best of defenders. He scored twice in the defeat of PSV.

In Evans's opinion, it is lack of consistency rather than quality that separates the present Liverpool team, standing second in the FA Carling Premiership, from emulating the club's former trophy-winning sides, yet Collymore's temperamental inadequacy is one of the reasons for their present inconsistency. His dis-

Radio row Iversen wins his spurs ... 44

appointing display against Villa, leading to his replace-ment by Berger in the second half, suggests that Berger will be preferred for this game. Evans's comment last night that there was "a fair chance" that Liverpool would play with only one man up front -Fowler - was less than enigmatic.

Collymore, who has yet to move house from the Midlands since leaving Nottingsulked after his substitution on Sunday and failed to appear for training on Tuesday. Not for the first time. Evans admits to being unable

to fathom Collymore's moods. The present position, however, cannot be tolerated indefinitely. Collymore's unpredictability harms the performance, not to say the morale, of his

The long-term solution will almost certainly be to let him move on. For all Evans's undemonstrative words in public - "Tell me what his motives are" - Liverpool have never been a club to suffer selfpreoccupation in a player.

Evans will probably play safe tonight, because he is well aware of the quality of the opposition. Comparing Brann with Brondby, of Denmark. who beat Liverpool in the Uefa Cup last season, Evans said: "Brann are very organised and talented and we saw them win in Cologne ja non-compet-itive match during their break]. Brondby did shut us out and made scoring difficult. but Brann have a strike force that must be considered. If we don't play up to standard, we know we could lose."

Assuming that Berger does play with McManaman behind Fowler, Evans will also be looking for some belated form from Redknapp. At 23, a six-year first-team veteran, Redknapp has yet to develop the playmaker's command of midfield that was forecast by Terry Venables, the former England coach. As England's star-of-tomorrow, Redknapp has been overtaken by Beckham, of Manchester United, and his performance against Villa was not outstanding. Talent is no excuse for not

Kjell Tennfjord, the Brann coach, dismissed the idea that Brann are weakened by the loss of two players — the Iceland international goalkeeper, Birkir Kristinsson, and Jan Ove Pedersen in midfield — through registra-tion confusion, and professed to be strongly optimistic. said last night, "but we can days. To have a chance, I think

les Fox Garage

Fixing a hole: Groundsmen investigate the hole in the pitch at Kingfield that caused the abandonment of a match, and another found yesterday

Hole story behind club's sinking fortunes

"THE council are looking in to it," followed by a titter - such was the stock response to callers to Woking Football Club yesterday as they sought enlightenment to the Vauxhall Conference scoreline in The Times yesterday morning that read: Woking v Hayes, match abandoned (20min), hole in

pitch. The Surrey club hopes to get to the bottom of the matter this morning when the specialist company that surveyed the house of Fred West in Cromwell Street. Gloucester, and the underground workings of bypass protestors brings its equipment to scan the King-field pitch. They've offered us two hours of their time, free," Phil Ledger, the Woking chairman, said.

It was Ledger's quick thinking in offering spectators free admission when the match is staged again that dug Woking out of their hole on Tuesday night. The 2,000 fans were understandably restive at being cheated of their fill, with no provision existing for a

Furthermore, although two man-sized craters — and the knots of bystanders peering into them - made the problem obvious yesterday, it was by no means so apparent on Tuesday night. Indeed, when Kevan Brown, the Woking captain, initially unearthed the Kingfield crater, his teammates did not let him believe it. "I received the ball from the left-hand side of the pitch and as I went to pass it, my standing leg gave way, stumbled and almost fell over," he said.

"As play went up the other end, I said to Steve Foster There must be a hole'. He just laughed and thought I was joking. Play went on for another couple of minutes and then Andy Ellis saw the hole. stood by it and called over the referee. It was about the size of a football and went down two

or three feet." Ledger was among those summoned to investigate by Paul Armstrong, the referee. He put a corner flag into it and it went in very, very

easily," he said. "We put soil into it but it didn't help. He thought that if a player put his foot into the hole, he might break his ankle, and the managers agreed in those circumstances the match shouldn't go ahead.

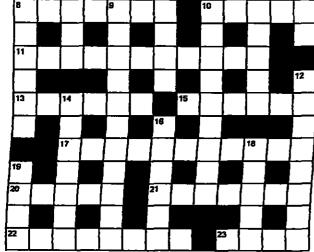
There was a 2ft square chamber with drainage pipes coming off it. A piece of biscuit-like cement was put over the top to stop bits of dirt falling into it. Earlier in the morning, it had been very wer and we had used a Vertidrainer on it. That cuts up the crust of the pitch and spikes the ground and we think it must have broken through the top of the chamber."

If the scan reveals no extensive damage to the rest of the drainage system, Woking hope to resume normal service for their supporters next Tuesday in a Conference match against Welling United. The Capital League match against Welling tonight, however, has been postponed, and the Surrey FA's youth county championship semi-final on

Saturday is in doubt. Woking Borough Council knows that it is on to a good thing, if not a hole new ball game, by backing Woking, who attract publicity with unerring ease, even it is normally by overturning Football League clubs in the FA Cup or reaching FA Umbro Trophy finals. It has just agreed a third year of sponsorship for £30,000.

Bernard Levis

Liverpool, in my opinion, are the best side in England," he beat them if we have two good we must win the home leg."



No 1034 in association with

BRITISH MIDLAND

ACROSS

- I To trick; one tricked (4)
- 3 Tom Brown bully (8) 8 Malade Imaginaire creator
- 10 (Venerated) survival (5)
- 11 A-level student (5-6) 13 Firmly assert (6)
- 15 Reach (6) 17 Home-owner (11)
- 20 Massacre of Innocents king
- 21 Hang up; defer (7) 22 Advance (S) 23 Stigma; pronounce indis-

DOWN 1 Of the home (8)

- 2 Flower; sounds like lots of sheep (5)
- 4 Keep doggo (3,3)
- 5 Delectable (11) 6 Mosquito-borne disease (7)
- 7 Impudence: part of body, of
- 9 Depth-gauging device (4.7)
- 12 Trespasser (8)
- 14 Lively movement, may
- 16 Against (another team) (6) 18 Live (in) (5)
- 19 Cut; vacillate, with change

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Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886. London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday

SOLUTION TO NO 1033

ACROSS: 5 Circumscribe 8 Guinea 9 Curare 10 East 12 Diagram 14 Octopus 15 Deny 17 Angler 18 League

DOWN: I Acquiescence 2 Bran 3 Psychic 4 Prorogue Utal) 7 Barnaby Rudge 11 Smollett 13 Putrefy 16 Clog

Wigan shopping for new stadium

By Christopher Irvine

WIGAN Rugby League Club yesterday announced the sale of Central Park, its home since 1902, to Tesco for a supermarket development. Wigan plan to use the proceeds of the £12 million deal to build a new stadium, but continue to be opposed by Dave Whelan, the multimillionaire business-man, who had offered to buy and redevelop the ground at a combined cost of £21.5 million.

Whelan, the owner of Wigan Athletic Football Club, whose offer for Central Park for use by the rugby league and football clubs was passed by an overwhelming majority of Wigan shareholders, said: The Wigan board are boasting they've scored a victory against me. This isn't a vic-

tory, it's a tragedy.
"It has echoes of the furore in football at Brighton, where they have money in the bank from selling the ground and nowhere to play. Wigan have even approached me about helping them with this talk of a new stadium. I've been sitting with these fellows for six weeks and they've done this deal behind the backs of everyone. I don't want to be in

the same room as them." Whelan, a former Wigan president and lifelong supporter, said that he would not attend another game until Jack Robinson, the Wigan chairman, and Tom Rathbone, another director, went. Both men are believed to have swung the Tesco deal as debenture shareholders with superior voting rights, one of several aspects of the agreement about which Whelan is

taking legal advice. "If it can be opposed legally, and Robinson and Rathbone

were removed and the shareholders appointed a new board, I'd talk to them and, hopefully, offer the same deal for the ground," Whelan said.

Wigan can remain at Central Park this season and next and the club has an option on a temporary move to Bolton Wanderers' new stadium, five miles away at Horwich, while a new ground is built at one of three proposed sites. If unsuitable, however, a permanent home outside Wigan is not

Reaction yesterday to confirmation of the sale suggests that Wigan will have a hard job convincing supporters that turning Central Park into a supermarket is in the club's

Robinson said that there might be intransigence from mainly older supporters, but he felt that younger people were open to persuasion and would see the benefits. "It's called progress. We've got to get with it," he said.

In a letter to shareholders, Robinson said that Whelan's lease proposal for Central Park was a "business straitjacket" that would restrict the club's ability to raise revenue. Whelan has said that, after tax and payment on land owned the club will be left with about £4 million from the Tesco deal the same amount he offered to buy Central Park.

David Bradshaw, the Wigan director of operations, said:
"We always believed that the ideal scenario was for the club to be playing in a state-of-the-art stadium. What we now have is a marvellous opportunity to bring that dream 40

Graham on slow route to title

By Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent

HEROL GRAHAM'S second comeback contest, against Craig Joseph, of Bradford, on Tuesday night, earned him time to prove himself. The former British, European and Commonwealth champion, 37, who has been trying to convince promoters that he has still enough in him to campaign as a championship contender, has been given one year to show if he can compete with young super-middle-

weights.
After Graham's one-sided win over Joseph at the Ele-



Graham: easy win

phant and Castle, Frank Maloney, his manager, who gave him a generous six out of ten for his effort, said that he would let the Sheffield man box three more times to find himself" and then put him to the final test.

Maloney will allow him to challenge David Starie, of Bury St Edmunds, who is expected to lift the British title when he meets Sam Storey, of Northern Ireland, on April 8. If Graham can get past Starie, he might have a chance of meeting the established super-

middleweights in Britain. Maloney will put Graham on again in April in Hull. "He put up a good enough performance tonight," Maloney said, "but at this level he'll never be in any trouble and will not make much money. I'll take it one fight at a time. Then after three or four fights we've got to see if he can fight."

Graham said: "I want to get to the top. A lot of people say I can't. A lot of people say if I get the opportunity to take it 'you've still got your speed, reflexes and boxing ability. use it to the best of your

"If they want me to come back to boxing and do what I did straightaway, that's impossible. Even the best football team can't do it. But the cobwebs are coming off and I can only get better and better. Chris Eubank has been

given the chance to return to mainstream boxing. The for-mer World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight champion, who has been promoting his own contests in the Middle East since his second defeat by Steve Collins 17 months ago, was yesterday offered a British and European title bout with the chamoion. Crawford Ashley. of

Maloney said that he had sent a fax to Eubank offering £350,000 for the bout, which would be held in London in May or June. "Crawford has already sent him a fax but he has had no reply so I am sending him one officially now." Maloney said. "We are offering him £350,000 for the two titles and the bout will also be an eliminator for a _world championship."

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